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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 23RD JULY.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has redressed a standing grievance of the Bombay Municipality. The reader will recollect that Sir Phillip Wodehouse declines to continue the annual Police contribution to the Bombay Municipality, but Sir Richard has reconsidered the matter and informed the Municipal Commissioner that the Accountant General has been instructed to hand over Rs. 90,000 to the Municipality, the amount of the Government contribution towards the cost of the Bombay Police for the year.

THE EMPEROR of Russia has issued a Proclamation to the Bulgarians, from which we give the following extract:

"Inhabitants of Bulgaria,—Russia's object is to build up and not to destroy. She is called by the decrees of Providence to pacify and conciliate all races and all denominations in those parts of Bulgaria which are inhabited by a population of various origin and beliefs. Henceforth the Russian arms will protect every Christian against all violence. No attack will be made with impunity upon his person or his property by any one, and every crime will be followed by a fitting punishment. The life, liberty, honour, and property of every Christian will be equally guaranteed, to whatever class he may belong. Vengeance will not guide our acts, which will be presided over solely by a sentiment of strict equity, as well as by the firm intention of causing order and right progressively to succeed the reign of disorder and despotism. To you, Mussulmans of Bulgaria, I address a salutary warning. It is painful for me to evoke the memory of crimes and acts of violence, of which several among you have been guilty towards defenceless Christians. Those horrors cannot be forgotten, but the Russian authorities do not desire to hold all responsible for the crimes of a few. Regular and impartial justice will overtake those criminals who have remained unpunished, despite the fact that their names were perfectly well known to your Government. Acknowledge now the justice of God which overtakes you, and bow to His will. Submit your legitimate needs to the authorities who will be appointed wherever my troops appear; become peaceful citizens of society which is ready to accord you the benefits of a regular organisation. Your existence and your property, the lives and honour of your families, will be sacred before us Christians."

Is it intended to convert Bulgaria into a Russian Province?

WE ARE sorry to record the death of the *Darjeeling News*. It was a useful outstation paper.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE has the following:

"Do heads of the different departments of Government know that extortion of a most grievous kind is carried on by peons, jemadars, duffadars, &c. in attendance on them, and extortion sanctioned by prescriptive usage, and most tyrannically practised upon native gentlemen when they go to visit the official superiors and at their homes to? In order to conciliate the good will of these satellites, it is necessary either to regale them with profusion, or to load them with gifts. If they are satisfied, the harpies will readily usher in the native visitor; if otherwise, they revenge themselves by not handing the visitors' card to the sahibs, and by telling them that the sahibs are busy and cannot see them, though the sahibs are at leisure. To avert the delay, inconvenience, and vexation to which native gentlemen are exposed from these causes they are prepared to submit to any sacrifice, and to incur a large amount of unnecessary expenditure. Is there no one who can eradicate this infamous custom?"

This pernicious custom prevails more or less in all parts of British India.

THERE has been a mehters' strike in Madras. It is stated that the removal of the night-soil was farmed out to a contractor, and that the men scavengers, whose pay was Rs. 5 per mensem, were in the habit of drawing Rs. 4 in advance at the commencement of the month against their wages. In addition to this the contractor debited them with 8 annas for a month's interest, leaving 8 annas to be paid to them at the end of the month, if there was no deduction made for fines. Some of the scavengers obtained loans elsewhere and did not take an advance from the contractor, who reduced their wages by half a rupee a month, in consequence of which they refused to go to work and induced the others to join them. Hence the strike.

IT IS REPORTED that General Hossain Ali Khan, of Herat, and one Turkoman Khan, in obedience to instructions from Sher Ali, have selected 40,000 Sowars from the several tribes, at the rate of one for every ten persons, and that 12,000 of the men now await the orders of the Amir, who for the present, has directed them to be sent to Herat.

NEWS RECEIVED from Khelat up to the 28th June represents affairs in that country as going on quietly and satisfactorily. The Khan has addressed the Naibs of Dadur and Bagh requesting them to render every assistance to the Line Riders in patrolling the Telegraph Line.

WE UNDERSTAND that the abolition of the present system of charging additional postage for the redirection of correspondence is now under the consideration of the Government of India, and will probably come into operation from the 1st of January next. The scheme involves the entire abolition of redirection charges, which will conduce much to the convenience of the public and the department. The loss of revenue will be made up by retrenchment.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy received the Raja of Nabha at Simla at a private *Darbar* on the 18th instant at 6 P. M. The usual ceremonies were observed on the occasion, but no salute was fired as the interview was private. A guard of Honor of Gurkhas was drawn up opposite Government House.

TUESDAY, 24TH JULY.

WE HAVE received the following letter from our Azimgurh correspondent dated the 20th instant:

"The Mooktears of Azimgurh have come to grief. Under Act XX [illegible] the Pleaders' and Mooktears' Act) there are four [illegible] Mooktears. The 1st class pays annually a License [illegible] 25, the second class Rs. 16, the third class Rs. 8 and the fourth class Rs. 4. By far the greater number of the mookhtears of this place—some 30 in number—have been practising for years both in the Revenue and Criminal Courts of the district under 8 Rupee License, which authorizes the holder to practise "in the Courts of the Commissioners of Circuit, Magistrates and Sub-magistrates, in the Sudder Ameen's and Moonsiff's Courts and in the Courts of the Assistant Commissioners, Extra Assistant Commissioners and Tehsildars"; while the same privilege was enjoyed by a few others who paid a License fee of Rs. 16 each. This being brought to the notice of Mr. Garding, Magistrate and Collector, the eight Rupee-License-holders were called upon to shew cause why they should not pay Rs. 16 to entitle them to practise in both the Criminal and Revenue Courts of the district. Not being satisfied with their explanation, he has suspended them from practising in the Revenue Courts pending a reference to the higher authorities and has made them pay Rs. 55 each as additional back fees for the past eleven years at the rate of Rs. 5 per head a year.

For some days past the atmosphere has been playing vagaries. Up to date the rain-fall has been very scanty. This would cause serious damage to the sugar-cane crop which is very extensively cultivated in this district.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes to us from Parvatipur dated the 18th instant:

On the 16th instant at or about half past 5 P. M., Purvatipur was visited by locusts, which covered the sky, but fortunately they passed the station without injuring the crops, and went up towards Julpigori, from thence they will probably proceed up to Darjiling.

THE SAME correspondent says:

Defalcation seems to be the order of the day in the N. B. S. Railway. Mr. Cecil Signaller in charge Purvatipur having misappropriated about 950 rupees it is rumoured absconded a few days ago for which a warrant under Section 409 I. P. C. has been issued by the Dinagepur Magistrate, Mr. Westmacott, for his arrest but he has not as yet been arrested. Cecil declares himself to be an East Indian by birth.

Saidpur Signaller Mr. Dobson (who has recently appointed to the Telegraph Department) it is said has also misappropriated Rs. 95 out of daily station cash and disappeared, but as the Sub-Assistant Telegraph Superintendent Mr. Farris telegraphed to the Rungpur, Dinagepur and Parvatipur Police officers for his arrest, Head Constable Koylas Chunder Sannyal arrested him at Purvatipur and has sent him up to Saidpur for his trial at Rungpore.

WE INVITE the attention of those, whose nerves are shaken by the exciting reports of the Health-Officer of Calcutta, to the following description of the houses of the poor in London, which we take from the *Times*:

"These places are the plague spots of our large cities. The influences which hang about them, and the life they encourage or necessitate are just everything of which we should most wish to rid ourselves. They are undesirable for body and for mind. Let us look at what human life is and must be under the bard conditions they impose. The death-rate of the lowest districts of London is more than twice that of the average of all London, more than three times that of the best parts of London. Nor is it death only that has to be feared. Where deaths are in excess, disease in all its stages and forms will be found to be in excess too. It is no small matter for it to be three times as likely as it ought to be that a member of each household shall be in some way out of health. The head of the family probably works away from home, is absent all through the day, and comes back only when his day's task is over. He is thus less subject than the rest to the mischief of local influences. It is the women and the children who chiefly suffer. With the lowered vitality and lassitude of ill-health comes the temptation to seek strength from drink, and it is certain that it will be often yielded to. What a home is this for a working man to come back to as his place of rest!"

Dr. Payne will do well to draw a comparison between London and Calcutta in this respect?

LORD SALISBURY pays this graceful compliment to Sir Phillip Wodehouse for his services in connection with the Bombay Famine:

"As this is the last Despatch in connection with the Famine which I shall receive under the signature of Sir Phillip Wodehouse I avail myself of the opportunity of placing on record my conviction that the conduct of Relief Operations during this perilous crisis, has entitled him to the thanks of Her Majesty's Government and to the gratitude of the people of the Bombay Presidency.

A MERCHANT in Boston, Massachusetts, has connected his office with his residence by a telephonic wire three miles in length. It is stated that "conversation can be carried on by it nearly as well as if those conversing were in the same room."

ACCORDING to the *Times of India* a memorial signed by a number of Anglo-Indians has been addressed to Lord Salisbury, asking him to appoint a special commission to proceed to Bombay and inquire into the operation of the cotton import duties before pledging Government to their repeal.

MAHARANI RAJRUP KUOR, of Tikari, has offered to give Rs. 20,000 towards the establishment of a dispensary at Tikari. The acknowledgments of Government have been conveyed to her.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH JULY.

THE MUNSIFS in Madras have been vested with powers of a Magistrate of the first class. The *Madrasee* protests against this measure because the Munsiffs have been degraded to the position of official subordinate not of the District Magistrate only, but also of the Deputy and Divisional Magistrates. We do not see why as judicial officers they should be subject to the executive control of the District or Deputy Magistrates?

A CARNIVOROUS plant has been discovered in Tasmania, which lives and thrives upon the flies and gnats which it succeeds in catching.

THE PUNJAB BANK has stopped payment. Under the Articles of the Association its Manager we learn from the *Tribune* was competent to advance loans on his own responsibility up to Rs. 35,000 without any reference to the Board of Directors. In the month of May last the shareholders were informed that over eleven lakhs of the capital had been swallowed up in bad debts. Three lakhs more were applied to purchasing the Bank's own shares as they were thrown on the market with the view of reducing its working capital. The shareholders of the Bank are said to have decided on a voluntary liquidation.

WE TAKE the following elegant extracts from the columns of the *Bombay Gazette*:

"We must, congratulate the editor of the *Times of India* on having succeeded during his recent stay at the Nailgherries in secreting a fresh supply of malignity, which will probably keep him going till he dies some day as he inevitably must, of rupture of the spleen. But he should husband his resources and not eject all his venom at once, or we shall soon lose him.

* * * *

"Mr. Geary mistook our gentleness for humiliation and repentance, and with the natural insolence of a base nature, trampled upon us with all his might. Perhaps this illustration is too complimentary to his powers, His conduct might be better illustrated by the concluding lines of Moore's well-known verses, on the Leigh Hunts Recollection of Lord Byron:—

"He lifts up his leg at the noble beasts carcase. And does—all a dog so diminutive can.

The *Times of India* reproduces the article from which the above elegant extracts are taken, with a heading "The Chairwoman of the Town Council unpacks her heart." Bravo!

RAI BAHADUR Kanhya Lal, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, Amballa, is appointed to officiate as District Superintendent of Police Gujrat, during the absence of Mr. Mercer, or until further orders. This we believe is the first appointment of the kind in the Punjab.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED three weeks back the receipt of certain official papers on the subject of the abolition of road tolls in Howrah. Mr. Cockerell the Burdwan Commissioner makes the following very sensible remarks:

Toll bars are of necessity a cause of vexatious and irritating interference with traffic. They add both directly and indirectly to the cost of transport, and the only justification of their establishment was to be found in the absolute necessity in former years of raising locally from those most immediately interested in the traffic, the means of maintaining the local roads in fair order. This necessity no longer exists. The imposition of the road cess has in most districts more than doubled the local resources available for the maintenance and repairs of district roads, and in my opinion we are bound to give the rate-payers the relief asked for and to remove the toll bars from the roads in question.

The Lieutenant-Governor remarks:

"While Government will not interfere with the discretion of the Committee, it does seem to the Lieutenant-Governor that having regard to the small amount which these bars bring in, and the irritation they cause, it would be very politic to abolish them in a district in which Rs, 1,40,000 is collected from the people by a direct cess for the maintenance of roads and communications."

We understand that the Raod Cess Committee of Hooghly have resolved upon the abolition of the tolls.

THE BOMBAY BANCH of the East India Association have submitted two petitions, the one to the House of Commons in respect of the proposed Indian Museum, and the other against the repeal of the cotton duties. We are of opinion that there ought to be a united petition from India against the cotton duties. The present session of Parliament will be soon over. During the recess the leaders of the communities in the different Presidencies should combine and adopt a general petition.

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER of the Punjab reports that "it is an established fact that the water from many wells at Lahore, if left to stand in any vessel during the hot weather, becomes putrid in thirty-six hours." Is there no Dr. Payne in Lahore to fill up the wells?

THURSDAY 26TH JULY.

AS WE had expected the educated natives of Madras have protested against the admission of dancing girls into Government Girls' Schools. They have petitioned the Government on the subject.

A SERIES of performances of Hindu dramas are being given in Madras. Colonel Napier Campbell, who is said to be an excellent critic in such matters, has spoken most highly of these dramatic representations; he declares Hindu comedy to be excellent and abounding in humour and absurdity; he approves highly also of the plots, which are well constructed and clevery put together.

THE BEHAR HERALD says that Moulavi Shurfuddin, belonging to a very respectable family of Patna, intends to proceed to England for the purpose of studying for the bar.

THE SAME PAPER protests against the transfer of Babu Bhudeb Mookerjee, Inspector of Schools, Behar Circle. Our contemporary says:

"We deprecate this transfer on public grounds. Apart from the Babu's established reputation as one of the best educational officers, he had begun his career here with an amount of earnestness and ability which deservedly commanded public confidence. He has introduced several important and salutary reforms which have infused life into the Education administration of this Province. We cannot understand why he has been so abruptly removed from Behar where he was only a few months ago, specially deputed here as the fittest man for this backward province."

We too think that Babu Bhudeb's transfer is a serious loss to Behar.

THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE contains the following amended rules for the examination of Pleaders and Mooktears:

"The examination of candidate for pleaderships of the higher grade shall be held in Calcutta; the examination for lower grade pleaders and for Mookhtears shall be held in Calcutta, Cuttack and Gowhatty. The examination for higher and lower grade pleaders shall be conducted in English; and for Mookhtears in English, or in the Vernacular of the district, at the option of the candidates, as declared in his application for admission to the examination."

NATIVE OPINION of Bombay calls Sir Richard Temple the English Haroun Alraschid. Our contemporary has heard that Sir Richard has been moving about in Poona with an ordinary dress and but one native attendant, both on foot. As a peripetetic Governor Sir Richard has no peer in the realm.

PONDICHERY is threatened with famine. The Government of India has accordingly notified that the rice exported by sea, and entered outwards for, on passing by land into the French ports and settlements of Madras, shall continue to be exempt from export duty till the 21st day of October.

FRIDAY, 27TH JULY.

THE MADRAS Government in consideration of the present condition of the Presidency has resolved to abandon the Agricultural Exhibition, which was to have been held in 1878.

ACCORDING to the *Pioneer* the native state of Tonk has suffered a serious loss in the person of its Prime Minister, Ibad Ulla Khan. He was the great-uncle to the present Nawab, and the last surviving son of the famous old Ameer Khan, who founded the State. He was a man of ability, integrity and good reputation.

COL. W. J. WILSON has been appointed by the Secretary of State to write a history of the Madras Army.

A PORTION of a colliery belonging to the Raneegunge Coal Association, at Parana Deep, fell in on Thursday last. There were 150 people in the pit at the time, but they all escaped, with the exception of two men who were crushed to death. It is said that some twelve to thirteen biggahs of land have fallen in, and that the greater part of a native village has gone with it. The mine is an old one, but it was still being worked.

IT IS stated that a Hindu woman at the village of Booree Khoorud, Zillah Onee, gave birth to a girl who had horns like a deer attached to her forehead. Shesurvived twohours only.

THE LAST quarterly list of the Bengal Library shews that in all 388 books and pamphlets were received into the Library during the second quarter of the current year, of which 170 were in the Bengali language, 41 in English, 20 in Sanskrit, 13 in Bengali-Musalmani, and twelve in Hindi. There was 2 trilinguals and 37 bilinguals, of which latter 26 were in Bengali andSanskrit, and 8 in Bengali and English. The total number of periodicals received was 73.

THE OBSERVATIONS taken at the Alipore Observatory from the 15th to the 21st July show the mean temperature of the seven days to have been 81·9 the maximum having been 92·7. The extreme variation duirng the seven days was 17·3, the total fall of rain during the seven days was 5·40 inches, the average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years having been 2·53.

THE NAME of Mr. K. Mackenzie has been removed from the list of Honorary Magistrates in Shahabad.

AT YESTERDAY'S sitting of the Vice-Regal Council the Punjab Courts Bill was referred to a Select Committee on the Hon'ble Mr. Stokes' motion. The Lieutenant-Governor spoke in support of the measure, in order to allow further time for its translation into and publication in the native languages. Further consideration of the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill was postponed. The Council adjourned for a fortnight.

SATURDAY, 28TH JULY.

THE COUNCIL of the Royal Asiatic Society have decided that, in future, members of the Bengal Asiatic, and of other affiliated Societies, may be admitted as members, without ballot, on the payment of an annual subscription of two guineas.

OUR BANDA Correspondent writes as follows:

"Weather.—Today is 23rd July and we have had no rain here as yet. Rain is much and sadly wanted. The heat is very oppressive, galling, intolerable. The hot wind or *loo* blows furiously during the day. It is simply impossible to go out during the day anywhere. The Thermometer ranges between 90 and 95 degrees. The sky is blue and spotless. Theinights are very clear and beautiful. If this state of things continues long no one knows what will be the result. It is not known what is in store for us this year. The prospect of the Khariff crop is precarious and will it is apprehended be a total failure, for if it does not rain soon the sowing season will pass away. Cholera was very prevalent in the District and committed great havoc. Several persons have been carried away by this fell disease. It is said that the disease is now on the decrease. Fortunately it was absent from the city but 2 or 3 cases have been reported now. The price of things are rising. Price current: Wheat 20 seers, Gram 32 seers, Rice 12 seers, Ghi 1 seer 14 ch, Oil 3 seers. 8ch. per rupee. Mangoes are very plentiful this year and are selling 6 annas per 100."

THE SAME Correspondent sends us the following:

"A band of predatory and itinerant Belochis coming it is said from beyond Makran was passing through this District. On the 17th and 18th instant it was rumoured that these men were encamping near Kulinjar and were coming towards Banda, and were committing great depredations and collecting and demanding money from the zemindars, Bunias and Mahajans of villages on their way under threats. It was said that they were compelling the people to sell sweetmeats and vegetables at the same price. The village people were much terrified and terror-struck. They all kept themselves up in their homes and did not work in their fields for several days. They all buried and concealed their valuables and removed their things in places of security and safety. Thus these fellows disturbed and troubled the villagers. They had entered this District from the Agentee where it is said they managed to get the zemindars regularly supplying them with "Rassad" by making false statement to the effect that the Political Agent himself had given them Rs. 400. Several absurd rumours were afloat regarding the men. Some said they were Russian spies others that they were the remnants of the Russian army, defeated and driven out of Armenia, others they were Kukanis, Cabulese, Cashmeris and routed Turks. In short rumour with its thousand tongues talked a great deal of things. It was said that in Pungara they had committed 4 murders and ravished several women without let or hindrance, snatched the horse of a Thanadar and murdered a Sahib. When this news reached this town and also that they were coming towards Banda, as they were encamped in the town of Girwan (10 miles from Banda) people were panic-stricken. The women concealed and buried their jewels and the Mahajans their cash. On the evening of the 19th Instant the leaders of this band Sardar Khan and Bahadur Khan appeared in Banda with gems &c. for sale. They were forthwith brought to the Magistrate before whom they confessed they were traders of gems and sellers of ponies and would gladly conform to the manners of the place. On learning that the Magistrate allowed them to practise and transact their business they explained to the city people not to be afraid of these "Sawdagars." On the morning of the 20th they demanded and collected some money from the inhabitants and went at last to the house of Seth Sham Karan the leading Banker of the City and demanded from him food for 300 men and threatened him with injury unless their request was complied with, informing him at the same time that they had received Rs. 125 from the Magistrate. Intelligence of this was brought to the Magistrate and our energetic Magistrate Mr. M. A. McConaghey accompanied by the District Superintendent of Police went out over to the Settees' place which in the meantime they had left leaving a message to the effect that they would return there within 3 hours. Our Magistrate however tracked them and arrested them and kept them in the lock-up in the City Police Station, and ordered the Police to proceed to Girwan at once and to bring in all the men here. On the morning of the 21st the whole band of men numbering about 60 or 70 sons consisting of men, women, boys, girls and children was brought before the Magistrate. They had with them 3 rifles and 1 sword. These were taken from them and lodged in the Malkhana. Thousands, nayftens of thousand of men gathered now about the Katchery to have a glimpse of their would-be plunderer. They have now been kept under close surveillance at the Newaba Tank and are not allowed to enter the city at all or wonder about. They nowlwish to go to the neighbouring Native States, but which our Magistrate would not allow. It is said that the Magistrate has reported the matter for the information of Government and solicited instructions as to their disposal pending the receipt of the Government order they will be kept in this wise and way. They pretend to be traders in gems, pearls, ornaments, utter, shishis &c. but they are no doubt petty plunderers. The clothing of the men consist of "pajamas, kortas and pagris," some men have 'ghagharyas' or frocks, the women 'ghagharyas'. The heads of the women are tied up with a handkerchief. Their loths are colored red and blue.

WE HAVE received a list of plants available at the Paikpara Nursery. The list is comprehensive.

A BURDWAN Correspondent sends us the following:

"Dr. Field is one of the best Judges that ever sat on the Moffusil Bench. His great erudition, sound judgment, profound knowledge of the laws of India and England and great administrative ability have won for him the respect and esteem of all classes of the people; you will be surprised to hear that corruption among the amla is fast disappearing, Dr. Field looks after *office* work himself. Burdwan had long been neglected and the result was that in the Civil Courts the procedure was very lax. Circular orders more or less and the Law partially were dead letters; Dr. Field has brought the office into thorough working order; he has brought from Bankoora from among a thousand and one applicants the well-known Sheristadar (Babu Gopendra Chunder Mookerjee) to fill his Registrar's chair. In his staff also he has now got a law graduate (Babu Kali Kristo Chowdhry) and one or two more really good and honest men."

WE HAVE received the report of a meeting of the Bogra People's Association held on the 22nd instant. We give below the Resolutions passed at the meeting:

"That Bogra is on the River Kurtwa, and the agriculture and commerce of the district solely depend upon the said, River, which is only navigable during the rainy seasons.

That the River becomes shallow as soon as the rainy season is over, so that boats cannot come, which greatly affects the export and import of goods, and that people suffer greatly (on account of water being stagnant) from climate unhealthy and injurious.

That the River Kurtwa like the Ganges, is held in great veneration by the Hindus, and a great number of pilgrims resort to *Mahastan* (situated on the River Kurtwa lying North of Bogra) which is a place of great sanctity both to the Hindus and the Mahomedans. The people coming on pilgrimage, (thither) suffer good deal from disease and other inconveniences, in their way on account of the River, being not *Navigable*.

That Bogra cannot fully share the advantages from the Northern Bengal State Railway, as the Railway Stations are far off hence. There is therefore no hope of Bogra, unless the River Kurtwa *be deepened*, especially in places where it is *shallow*. That a memorial be submitted to the Chairman of the District Road Cess Committee on the above grounds with the signatures of the inhabitants and members of the Bogra People's Association."

A KRISHNAGHUR Correspondent writes to us as follows:

"Even coarse rice is selling here at 4 Rs. a maund. This is as much as the rate which prevailed during the last season of distress; the officials think that this high rate will tend to keep much stock in the country at the end. But I think this is a mistake. The rice is being taken away owing to the large demand for export and whatever little the steamers cannot bring down or the Railway cannot carry away is alone left. The poor people very naturally curse this result of facilities of communications."

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 22nd July.—A formidable strike has taken place among employes on the Erie, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, and Ohio Railroad against a reduction of wages. The traffic was stopped in various places, and the military had to be called out to disperse the rioters, and guard the trains. The Militia, while leaving Baltimore, were mobbed, and fired on the people killing ten and wounding thirty. The rioters burnt the station. Osman Pacha's army has repulsed an attack made by the Russians on Plevna with heavy loss.

22nd.—The strike on American railways is extending. A serious riot occurred yesterday at Pittsburg, when the militia fired on the rioters, killing 20 and wounding 29. The Grand Duke Alexander, with his force is besieging Rustchuck. The Russians have captured the Turkish camp at Yenisaghra. According to a Russian official despatch, the Russian troops occupied the Schipka Pass on the 19th, when the Turks retreated in disorder. A despatch from Ahmed Mukter Pasha dated Kars, 19th, states that the Russians unsuccessfully attacked the Turkish right wing, and were defeated with heavy loss, and compelled to fall back. The Turks hold the heights of Akpunar. A yacht has left Constantinople with sealed orders, it is believed, to recall Midhat Pasha.

23rd.—The Troopship *Euphrates* sails on Thursday next with 1,500 men and four other troopships follow with larger number of men in each, the destination of the force is Malta and Gibraltar, but it is believed that its ultimate destination is Gallipoli. The London papers generally approve of the action of the Government. Desperate fighting took place at Pittsburg America on Saturday, when the militia were defeated by the Rioters who now hold the town with arms and cannon. The Sheriff was killed during the engagement. Numerous incendiary fires have occurred and the destruction of property has been great. United States troops are on the way to the scene of the riots. According to a Russian official despatch the Russians after severe fighting occupied Lowatza. Severe fighting attended with heavy loss to Russians preceded the taking of the Schipka Pass The Russian troops in the Dobrudscha are marching to besiege Silistria. A portion of Suleiman's army numbering 18,000 is marching on Jamboli. The Russians have left Kurukdara and are concentrating on

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Simla, 24th July.—The goods other than grain, now leaving Madras for the interior daily, average 350 tons only, and include salt, 195 tons; fuel, 45 tons; railway stores, 38 tons; other goods, 72 tons.

London 24th July.—The Earl of Derby in the Lords and Sir Stafford Northcote in the Commons said that the Mediterranean garrisons being below the full complement, in the present disturbed and uncertain condition of Europe, it was deemed desirable to strengthen them by 3,000 men. This was the sole foundation for the newspaper reports on the subject. After severe fighting, the Russian troops at Zaim appear to have fallen back upon Gumri. The Russians are supplying arms to the Bulgarians.

Post (*Morning Post?*) has published a statement from leading newspaper specials, certifying to the atrocities of the Russians in Bulgaria upon the Mahomedan population.

London 24th July—In the Commons it was agreed to rescind the vote of censure adopted on the Earl of Beaconsfield appointing Mr. Pigott to the stationery office. Mehemet Ali and Sulieman Pacha have assumed their respective commands the former as Commander-in-Chief and the latter as Commander in Roumelia. The Turkish troops are more active and heavy skirmishes have taken place in the vicinity of Silistria, Varna and Schumla. The Russians have completely invested Rustchuk heavy siege artillery bombarding. Traffic on the Railway between Phillipopulis and Adrianople interrupted. Montenegrins are besieging Nicksics. Vague rumours are current of Russo-Italian alliace. The Russian press allege that if the British Mediterranean iron-clad squadron enters the Dardanelles it will encounter the Indian squadron.

25th July—According to an official Turkish despatch to Turkish representatives abroad the Russians are accused of burning villages and wholesale massacring of the Mahomedan population Bulgaria. Strike in America is extending to Newyork and Westwards various trades are joining in it, United States troops everywhere called out the Russians defeat at Revna is confirmed. The Russians have fortified the Schipka Pass and strongly entrenched themselvss at Eskisaghra. Russian official despatch states that the insurrectionary movement is extending in province Ter and that insurgents had surprised a detachment Russian troops, Russians in Dagbestan have been reinforced. Suleiman Pacha has arrived at Adrianople with 20,000 men, A Court Martial has been ordered upon Abdul Kerim Pacha and Redif Pacha. The Montenegrins are capturing forts in the Duga Pass, Lieutenant General Wood has been appointed Colonel of Foot vice Raymond appointed Colonel 1st Royals.

Bombay 26th July,—During a debate on the East India Loan Bill, Mr. O'Donnell declared that it was desirable to give India direct representation in Parliament. Lord George Hamilton said the loss on public works in India was decreasing. The whole question will next year be referred to a select committee. A special enquiry is being made into the Madras system of collecting salt revenue. Germany has prohibited the exportation of horses, in consequence of the unsettled of affairs in France. The Khedive is going to erect two forts to guard the entrances of the Suez Canal.

London 26th July.—Suleiman Pacha has reached Karabunar. A detachment of Russian troops is in the vicinity, and a battle is believed to be imminent. According to unofficial Turkish accounts, Russian assault on Silistria on the 23rd July, was repulsed. The Russians have evacuated Bayazid The Porte has stopped its pension to the Afghan pretender leaving at Pera.

London 28 July. The Commons, by a great majority, agreed to the ministerial notion for preventing obstruction of business. Midhat Pacha has been recalled. Much uneasiness exists at Constantinople and Adrianople. An outbreak of Mahomedan fanaticism is feared in the Levant, and Foreign Consuls have demanded of their Governments the despatch of several war vessels to protect the Christians. The Russians have cut off all communication between Phillipopolis and Adrianople. The transports, *Crocodile and Euphrates* have sailed with re-inforcements for Malta.

WE ARE requested to draw attention to an advertisement of the Druggists' Hall in another column. It will be observed that Dr. Umesh Chunder Mookerjee, whose return from England we lately noticed, has consented to treat and advise patients at the dispensary *gratis* between 7 and 9 A. M. daily. Dr. Mookerjea has not entered Government service, but will practise in the city.

IN NOTICING the last number of the *Calcutta Review* in our last, we were unconsciously unjust to the writer of the "critical notices." When we pronounced them "meagre" we did not mean that the notices themselves were not comprehensive enough, but that the number of notices was not sufficient.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Imperial Bouquet of Pretty Flowers, being selections from Lord Lytton's poems and speeches in India. Edited by N. A. Chick, Calcutta. 2. Stray Leaves from a Military Man's Note-book. By Henry Hartigan. Edited by N. T. Walker. Calcutta. 3. A Memorial to the Commissioner of Delhi about the Saraogis procession. 4. Price List of fruit trees for sale at the famous Garden of the late Newab Khyroollah Khan. 5. Report of the Port Commissioners of Calcutta for 1876-77. 6. Fourth Annual Report of the Chinsurah Charitable Society. 7. Suddarshana Chintanika. Vol. I. No. 7. 8. Jail Administration Report of N. W P. for 1876. 9. Report on the Lunatic Asylums in the Central Provinces for 1876. 10. Report on the Trade and Navigation Returns of British Burmah. 11. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, June 1876. 12. An Essay on the Theory of Spiritual benefits; the basis of succession in Hindu Law. By Trailokhya Nath Mitra M. A. B. L. 13. A catalogue of the Paikpara Nursery.

ONE MR. LAWRENCE charged two European constables of this town with assault. We give the following extract from the judgment of Mr. Marsden, the Chief Magistrate of Calcutta:

A constable has no business whatever to draw his *baton* unless it is either to defend his life, or that he is being overpowered by numbers; and I consider there is not the *slightest* possible excuse for two constables having fallen on an unarmed man, and beaten him about the head with their *batons* as in the present case.

It appears to me that the gravity of the present case would not be met by a fine, and the sentence of the court is, that constables Monty and Pennyfeather do each undergo one month's rigorous imprisonment.

A few such examples now and then are sure to have a good effect.

NOTICE.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, *Bow-Bazar Street.*)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on *Thursday* the *2nd August* next, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Nature of Light.

Rules of Admission to Lectures of the Association.

Admission invariably by Ticket.

Donors admitted free to all Lectures. Subscribers prepaying for the year or the month admitted free to all the lectures of the year or the month respectively.

Admission Fee for non-subscribers—*Annas* 8 for a single Lecture: Or Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive Lectures.

Tickets to be had of the clerk at the office of the Association between 10½ A. M., and 4½ P. M., (Sundays excepted), and on the day of Lecture up to the time of Lecture.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M.D.
Honorary Secretary.

27th July 1877.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 30, 1877.

AN APPEAL.

THE situation of the famine districts, particularly in Madras and Mysore, seems to be very critical. Although the Government of India in the beginning undertook the task of affording relief with a somewhat faint heart, it is now we believe fully awakened to the gravity of the situation. The Government of Madras, which deserves great credit for the firmness, with which it maintained its position, and the thoroughness with which it has done its work, has at last been allowed to act on its responsibility. But notwithstanding the heroic efforts it is making to save the poor sufferers from starvation and death, it has not been able to grapple successfully with the monster, which is stalking over the land in grim grandeur. Mysore, which in the beginning was thought to be pretty safe, seems to be in a most desperate condition. There the rate of mortality is said to be even greater than in Madras, heavy as it is in the last-mentioned province. It is feared that deaths from starvation in the two provinces will far outnumber those which occurred in Orissa during 1866-67. But in Orissa the Government was not prepared to meet the calamity; in Madras the note of alarm was sounded from the beginning. This is not the time to cast up the accounts of the several Governments, which are charged with responsibility in this grave crisis; all personal consideration must now give way to the paramount consideration of saving life. The Government is doing its best, but will not the charitable public move even their smallest finger for the relief of the poor sufferers? Will our wealthy countrymen in Bengal, the North West, Oudh and the Punjab, do nothing to help their suffering countrymen? Will they not open their purse-strings and give what assistance they can for the maintenance of their famishing countrymen and countrywomen? Will the generous-hearted Englishmen, who come here to make money, sit still and show no sympathy for those whose country enriches them? Will not the great English nation, which is seldom backward in giving help to those who need its help, come forward in this crisis in Southern India with its wonted liberality? We are well aware that whatever amount may be raised by public subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers from the famine, it will be but a drop in the ocean that the suffering and misery are so widespread that private charity cannot hope to alleviate them to any appreciable extent, that at a time of such national calamity the national exchequer must come to relief, and that the Government has anticipated the national responsibility by undertaking the relief of the sufferers. Still private charity may do much, at any rate may to a certain extent supplement the efforts of the State. Madras and Bombay assisted Bengal nobly in its trial in 1874, and Bengal owes a debt of gratitude to both. Why should it not repay that debt? Unfortunately there was no one in Calcutta until yesterday to take the lead; but this difficulty is removed by the return of the Lieutenant-Governor. If His Honor heads a movement for this work of humanity we dare say it will be generally responded to. We hear of movements for the relief of the Turkish wounded; we have ourselves supported the appeal of the Mahomedan community on this subject, but we have a call nearer and stronger. Charity ought to begin at home; thousands who are perishing in hunger on our own soil have certainly a strong claim to the sympathy of the wealthy and benevolent. We do hope that an effort will be made for this mission of mercy.

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.

THE situation in Europe is becoming critical. The rapid successes of the Russians have driven the Turks to a corner, and while we admire the pluck and nerve with which the Turks are fighting we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that they are vastly outnumbered, and that it is therefore hopeless for them to resist long the force of numbers. Man to man the Turk seems to be a braver and stronger solider, but can one Turk stand against the combined attacks of ten Cossacks? Then there is corruption and treachery in the Turkish Camp. In this crisis what will the European Powers do? Will they sit with folded hands and allow Russia to swallow up Turkey? They know well that the Christian sympathy of Russia is a mere pretext—her sole object is self-aggrandizement. The later telegrams show that the Christian soldiers of Russia are committing the same barbarities that the Turks did in Bulgara, so that the two are at quits. If Russia can take Turkey she will virtually be the dictator of Asia and Africa. As a colonial friend of Lord Salisbury told his Lordship that Russia was in Armenia, that Armenia was the key to Syria, that Syria was the key to Egypt, and that any one advancing into Egypt would have the key to Africa. Lord Salisbury pooh-poohed his friend, and told his audience at the Merchant Taylors' meeting, where this reference was made, that England did not mean to go to war. His Lordship said: "Caution, and extreme caution, is necessary before a Government risk the wealth, the prosperity, and the freedom we have around us, and before it breaks the peace of the world, perhaps bringing all the horrors of war into Europe, and this not in pursuit of real honour, but for a theory and a dream. (Cheers.) It has generally been acknowledged to be madness to go to war for an idea, but, if anything, it is yet more unsatisfactory to go to war against a nightmare. (Laughter and applause.) We would ask those who have been led away—perhaps by their imaginations, into gloomy views on this question, at least to consider what ought to be their duty, if all was true. In the last Franco-German war the difference was shown in this way—they had arms of equal value, but the French always fired them off directly they saw their enemy on the horizon, while the Germans waited until their enemy, was in sight. You know what the result of that would be. I will not say that we have an enemy although it is generally supposed that this war has been connected against English interests—I believe it may be looked at in another light; but assuming that this is so, what is the wiser course to allow your enemy to choose his own ground and to follow him through his deserts and impassable mountain chains, or to wait until he comes within your range, and where your armies will be able to deal with him with invincible effect? (Cheers.) This I mention as a matter of theory. No facts are within my knowledge which would justify me in representing that we have such, above all things it behoves the English people to act up to their ancient name, and look at these matters with that steadiness and prudence, which after all form the best part of courage." And Lord Salisbury now greatly sways the cabinet. Lord Derby echoed the sentiments of his colleague. His Lordship said: "I agree in everything which has been said by my noble friend—that we must be ready to defend our interests when those interests are attacked; but, on the other hand, we must remember when talking of British interests that these may be made to include anything done in any part

of the world, and which was not done by our sanction and by owu own desire. These are British interests and we cannot refuse to recognize their importance. After all,we must remember this,that the greatest of all British interests is the interest of peace. (Cheers.)We have dealings with every country, we have political and other relations in all parts of the world, and it is really no exaggeration to say that no two countries anywhere on these globe could go to war but somebody's interests would suffer by their so doing. We therefore are bound to bear in mind that our attention must not be confined to any one particular point. We have to consider what is the state of matters over the whole world, and we have to consider also the risk of involving ourselves in hostilities in any one part of the world when thereby we might disable ourselves from even necessary defence in some other place where our interests were much more threatened. (Cheers.)" So both the Ministers counselled inaction. But did they express the real sentiments of the cabinet or the nation ? We fear not. We are inclined to think that they simply followed Talleyrand's maxim that language is given to man to conceal his thoughts. England is in a difficult position. The tremendous agitation made by Mr. Gladstone and his followers paralyzed the action of the Ministry, whose sympathy was doubtless with the Turks. Since then Lord Salisbury, some say through the influence of his strong-minded lady, has veered round, and lent his great weight to the policy of "masterly inactivity." Again, Bismarck is biding his time. It is believed in well-informed quarters that he meditates to attack France, swallow up Belgium, and lead Europe into a general war. All these complications, unknown to the outside world, we can believe, make it difficult for England to move. But how long can this state of things last ? England is increasing her naval strength, but she is isolated in Europe, and we fear she cannot go to war single-handed. Will Russia and Germany combine ? If it comes to that, then there is sure to be a general conflagration in Europe.

THE SITUATION IN ASIA.

THE situation in Asia is dependant upon the situation in Europe. If Turkey loses her foothold in Europe, she cannot hope to retain her possessions in Asia. It is true that she has bravely and successfully repulsed Russia in Armenia, but Russia's victories in Europe will pave her way in Asia. And what does the extension and consolidation of Russian power in Central Asia mean ? It certainly means no good omen for England's power in Asia. Say what a certain class of English politicians may, a day we fear is at hand when Russia and England shall meet face to face in Asia. Lord de Mauley truly said the other day in the House of Lords, that the Russians have been fortifying their positions, seizing places of strategic importance, moving cautiously towards our frontier. The wave from the North is steadily advancing. A great part of Armenia is Russian territory, the Caspian sea has been converted into a Russian lake, and Astrabad a Russian fortress. Although we do not share the keen apprehensions of Lord de Mauley, who seemed to think that "before we could move an army, hordes of Cossacks would swarm like locusts over our frontier to feed and fatten upon the resources of India still we cannot resist the conviction that forewarned is forearmed." It is true that if England extends her Indian frontier, she cannot stave off Russia's attack, and that if the two Powers shall some day meet face to face, it is far better that England should occupy a point where she would be strong. The extension of the frontier would undoubtedly weaken England's strength. But the question is this, which would be the safer course for our Government to pursue—to wait at our own gate and allow the frontier tribes, which had hitherto operated as our safeguard, to fall into the hands of Russia, and thus swell her strength, or to carry these tribes with us and add their strength to ours ? This is the question which we believe now awaits solution at the hands of our Government. As matters now stand our sole reliance is the alliance with Cabul, and the Ameer it cannot be concealed does not cherish the best of feelings towards our Government. Our relations with him have not been quite happy. We have been bribing him with money and arms, but we have received no *quid pro quo*. That this has been the case has not been entirely the Ameer's fault. Our statesmen have seriously bungled in their dealings with the Ameer. A letter in the *Delhi Gazette*, whether imaginary or real, gives we believe a correct version of the state of feeling in Cabul. We transcribe it for the edification of the reader :

The Akhoond of Swat wrote lately to the Amir in the following strain :—

"You should endeavour to effect a reconciliation with the English Government, and shun the alliance with the Russian Emperor. I have been informed that a Russian Ambassador has arrived at Cabul, and is being much respected there ; if it be true I shall forsake the *Jehad* standard and incite my disciples against you, who will march under command of the Hakim of Bajour and commit depredations in your city. If you delay the reply to this letter, you will find me your political opponent."

When the Amir read this unwelcome letter, he became much agitated, and said aloud, that "The Akhoond Sahib must have become senile and peevish, I never slighted his request. I attribute his irritation to some misrepresentation of my otives. I shall discuss therefore this matter in an open Durbar, and then write the reply." A Durbar was accordingly held on the 7th instant, at which Hubeeb-oollah Khan, Zakaria Khan, Husmut-ool-la Khan, Zulfikar Khan and several others were present. The Amir said, "I am much distressed by successive calamities. I cannot describe them fully ; I hope my principal officer will bear me out, and confirm my statement, as he is well acquainted with the motives of my actions. I mention some of them, however, with the view to reply to the Akhoond's address.

1.—"The English Government has treated me in the same manner as the Russians have dealt with the Porte ; i.e., commenced to intermeddle with the internal affairs of my state—a step quite unprecedented and unwarranted. I have resolved therefore that while I live I will not admit an English Ambassador to my court."

2.—"In contravention of the last treaty, the English Government has allied with the Khan of Khelat, and is now making preparations to establish cantonments there. From this it is evident that the said Government is now threatening to invade Cabul.

3.—"I have no faith now in the English Government, nor do I expect any good therefrom. A treaty was concluded in 1856 with the Porte to assist him whenever there was a war impending over Turkey ; now that the Russians are pressing hard, the English have left him in the lurch. The poor Porte is fighting alone with the furious Russian bear, intent upon self-aggrandisement and deaf to reason. The English are now standing aloof as spectators, and looking on who turns out victorious, and affords them the most amusement. They hate the Mahomedans, as much as the Russia do, so neither the one nor the other is better in this respect."

At this juncture Zakaria Khan rose, and said, "My Lord ! I beg pardon, and venture to describe some acts of the Russians, which entitle them to the imprecations of the faithful of our true religion.

"Those travellers and merchants who come now and then to his country from Russia, state that Russians are fraudulent, treacherous, and faithless to the Mahomedans. They have destroyed and depopulated many villages, and ruined many of their families According to the Treaty of 1856, the Russians are much to blame for the wanton aggression they have made on the Turks, under a flimsy excuse of protecting the Christian subjects of the Porte. What authority do the Russians possess to interfere with the internal affairs of another kingdom ? Do the other nations interfere with the cruel acts of the Russian Government, when it encroaches upon the neighbouring countries, and massacres the people without distinction ? The fact, is "might is right," none will interfere with its acts, because it would not allow any one to do so ; its pride will never tolerate it.

"You should therefore shun their alliance, and endeavour to make up the difference with the English. From my personal knowledge and experience, I can foretell that the English will assist the Porte at the proper time. I cannot explain why that have been so long inert ; but I believe they will ultimately shake it off and show their real valor and concern."

The Amir heard all this attentively, and made at last the following remarks :—"I do not entertain seriously any idea of a Russian alliance, as the majority of my Durbar are opposed to it, and the Akhoond Sahib is highly displeased with it ; but he thought he was politic to work upon the English lethargy with an occasional does of Russian jealousy." After this prolonged conference, the Darbar was adjourned, and the Amir wrote the following letter to the Akoond Sahib :—"I shall never disregard your wishes, but you should tutor the English to refrain from meddling with Cabul affairs, which must be late alone as they have hitherto been, and adopt measures to indemnify the interests of our country." Short and sweet as it was, it was accompanied by many valuable presents.

When such is the feeling of the Ameer, it is we think hopeless to cement a bond of union between him and our Government. But the Ameer may perhaps be won over in another way. If he could be convinced that our Government could afford to do without him, he would then feel the necessity of co-operating with it. Hitherto our policy had been to strengthen the hands of the Ameer, and to work upon the frontier tribes through him. Lord Lawrence correctly described our past relations with the Ameer in the following words : "It was now 20 years since he made the Treaty which still existed between the Cabul Government and the British Government. Since then the reigning Ameer had been our prisoner, and by Lord Ellenborough magnanimously restored to his country. Before his death that Ameer warned him against the British Government supporting the conflicting pretensions of either of his two sons, and advised him to let them fight it out ; and he steadily refused to support either party until one got the better of the other. The present Ameer received two British officers at Candahar, where they remained as long as they could do so with safety ; but the elder of them, Major-General Sir Harry Thompson, assured him that, owing to the espionage practised at Candahar, no more information could be obtained there than could be obtained without difficulty at Peshwur, where traders from all parts of India met each other and talked freely without fear of interference." But Lord Lawrence did not give the whole truth. He did not say that it was his promise that no British Resident should be stationed at Cabul, which has compromised all further negociations of our Government with the Ameer. The result has been the cessation of British influence in the court of the Ameer. For this result Lord Lawrence is greatly responsible. But as the Ameer is not disposed to be a friend of our Government, any further advance to secure his friendship is simply love's labor lost. It would be much better if our Government could cultivate friendly relations with the neighbouring frontier tribes and thus make itself independent of the Ameer. But for the hope of support from our Government the several tribes, which now render allegiance to the Ameer, but which are semi-independent, would have shaken off his yoke, and if the Ameer does not see the advantage of his alliance with our Government he may as well be told to shift his own course. Adventurous spirits are not wanting to establish themselves at Candahar and Herat, and if they can cut their own way and are willing to cultivate friendly relations with our Government, they will have as much claim to the assistance and support of our Government as the Ameer of Cabul. United Affghanistan may be a source of danger to us, but disunited Affghanisthan may be a source of positive strength. We do not of course wish that our Government should intrigue and incite opposition to the Ameer, but we feel certain that if the feudatories of the Ameer know that they have nothing to fear from the British in case they worked out their own independence, they will know how to pay him off. The benefits of political alliance between nations ought to be mutual, and if the Ameer will always take the heads and leave us the tails, surely our Government is under no sort of moral obligation to support him. We should only be careful not to allow ourselves to be dragged into a war with Affghanisthan. Let ours be a policy of non-intervention. Let the Affghan Chiefs settle their own business, and if our neutrality be a help to them, we should remain entirely neutral. A balance of power in Affghanisthan would be ultimately a gain to the cause of peace.

OFFICIAL TALKATIVENESS.

WHAT is official talkativeness ? In the late debate in the House of Lords the Duke of Argyll raised the question of official secrecy. His Lordship said, "it was impossible to get real secrecy in India—a point to which reference was made by a noble lord, then a member of their lordships' House, in speaking with reference to the transfer of the Indian Government from the East India Company to the Crown. His argument was that you could not expect it from the servants of the company, but might from the servants of the Crown. Now, as regarded the foreign policy of the Government of India that policy was shaped by the Minister at home, who formerly acted through a secret committee, and, therefore, the change of name from Company to Crown, did not in that respect produce any serious effect ; but much depended upon the good faith of the servants of the Crown in India. No doubt the members of the Government in India were not in the position of Cabinet Ministers at home. They were not and did not consider themselves as being under the seal of secrecy, and in truth it was impossible to issue instructions in India and to act upon them without their becom-

ing matter of public notoriety and talk in all the barracks in India, and the result was that what was intended by the Government came out, and came out in a most inconvenient and greatly exaggerated form. There was, therefore, much misunderstanding on the subject, and this misapprehension existed in regard to the intentions of the noble marquis opposite. Perhaps it might be said that among the many qualities of some of the high and distinguished men forming the Government of India reticence was not the most remarkable, and certainly one of these eminent men the other day, in making a Budget speech, alluded to the question of foreign policy in a manner which gave rise to very serious speculation and alarm." This was a sweeping charge, but His Grace modified it in a letter to the *Times* in the following words: "What I said of reticence not being conspicuous at present in India referred to the Viceroy himself, and not his Councillors." Strange to say Lord Salisbury endorsed this charge. His Lordship said, "I am bound also to concur entirely with the noble duke as to the singular difficulty which is placed in the way of the Indian Government by the curious talkativeness of the English officials in India. I do not for a moment mean to include all Indian officials in that censure, but there are no doubt some who talk about the public business of the Government to their vents." In India European society is limited, and we should not be surprised, if Indian officials did discuss among themselves matters of state. But it needs be borne in mind that the European community for the most part forms the governing caste, and any discussion among the members of it is more in the nature of interchange of notes than gossip. As for official talkativeness we do not know whether it prevails more in England than in India. In England there is scarcely a public question, which is not thoroughly ventilated in the newspapers. The other day Sir Stafford Northcote said that the newspapers at the present day were better informed than the Cabinet ministers, and surely this could not be the case if there had been strict official reticence. We are glad to observe that Lord Northbrook defended the Indian officials. His Lordship said: "It has been stated that we cannot always rely upon our Indian public servants preserving the secrecy that in some cases it is absolutely necessary to enable us to conduct negotiations. That is not my experience of the public servants in India. I believe them to be as honourable and as discreet a body of men as can be found in this country, and that they may be trusted implicitly to keep secret any confidential matters that may be communicated to them. (Hear, hear.) Oddly enough, when I had the honour of being connected with my noble friend the Duke of Argyll, when he was Secretary of State for India, a confidential matter of some importance relating to India appearing in one of the newspapers, the noble duke wrote to me to endeavour to ascertain how the matter had become public. Curiously enough, I ascertained that the secret had been divulged, not in India, but in this country. I will not say by whom. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.)" The testimony of Lord Northbrook was weighty because his Lordship spoke from personal experience.

But the question is whether there should be such strict official reticence in India as the Duke of Argyll and the Marquis of Salisbury seemed to hold. In India there is no Parliament, and the public have therefore no means of eliciting information from Government. It rests with the Government to publish any official papers or give any official information it likes. As a matter of fact the Government of India is not very communicative. Not unfrequently it whets the curiosity of the public by giving only half the facts of a case or perhaps giving only unimportant facts. The consequence is that speculation becomes rife, and fiction obtains currency in lieu of facts. It is the Government which suffers in the end. Public criticism to be intelligent and just, must be based on facts, but if the Government withholds facts, with what justice can critics be blamed for receiving what they are constrained to consider as facts? If the press can get at the truth, it cannot circulate the truth. There is now-a-days an intelligent curiosity among the Indian public about public matters, but if the public be sedulously kept in the dark, they cannot but conclude that the deeds of Government must be dark when it shuns the light.

We think that Lord Lytton deserves commendation instead of censure for making an advance to take the public into confidence. The Duke of Argyll did not seem to like that Lord Lytton should have talked of foreign politics in the midst of his Budget speech. It might have been somewhat irregular, but not at all unnecessary. We could not say that Lord Lytton's utterances threw the light which the public wanted, but perhaps his Lordship could not say more. He said as much as he could under the circumstances of the case, for which we ought to feel grateful to his Lordship. Unfortunately the *Times* and other English papers took him to task for it, and now the Duke of Argyll has publicly censured him. Could any thing be more unjust than this? In England the utmost publicity is given, and the political machinary there gives the public every opportunity to elicit information on all manner of questions. On the very occasion, on which the Duke of Argyll condemned Lord Lytton for his frankness, His Grace wanted precisely the same information, for the communication of which he found fault with the Viceroy. Now, surely what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. If there is public curiosity in England, there is the same curiosity in India, and we cannot understand why in the United Kingdom the minister should be compelled to give information, and in India the Viceroy should be condemned for supplying it.

There was another important fact mentioned by the Duke of Argyll in this debate. He said: "Governmental communications between the Home and Indian Governments had to be conducted to a great extent by means of private letters, personal communications, and telegrams —documents that it was not easy to convey to the public in the shape of Parliamentary papers or returns. This had been his experience while at the India Office, and he did not suppose that if the noble marquis who succeeded him was widely different." Lord Salisbury said: "I have no cause to quarrel with the noble duke in reference to the maxim he has laid down with respect to private letters. I quite agree with him that an over-use of them would be a thing to be deplored. But we have a tradition in the India Office that it was with the noble lord at the end of the bench opposite (Lord Northbrook) that the system originated. (Laughter.) I have no doubt that in the political circumstances with which he had to deal his success was a sufficient justification of his action. (Hear, hear.) But no doubt it would be undesirable that a full record of the proceedings of one Government should not be left for the benefit of their successors." We protest against this system of governing India by private letters—aye more, by telegrams. It is a vicious system. When an official is required to put his reasons for a measure on paper, which may some day see the light of publicity, he thinks half a dozen times before he commits himself, but he does not feel this wholesome restraint in his private communications. A friend once remarked to us—why the fate of India is not unfrequently decided at the dinner table? And this we fear is too true, and the evil is aggravated by "private letters." The contagion of "private letters" prevails very widely. The Magistrate writes private letters to the Commissioner, the Commissioner to Government Secretary or the Board, and the Board to the Lieutenant Governor, the Lieutenant Governor to the Member of Council, or the Governor General as the case may be, and the Governor General to the Secretary of State, and this pyramid of private correspondence the outside public cannot penetrate into. Lord Salisbury did seem to object to this mode of Government, and yet he did not say one word to indicate whether he intended to put a stop to it. These "private letters" are much more mischievous than official talkativeness.

CHOLERA IN TANKS.

An old friend of ours used to say that under the British Government words carry the day. If a man has a good stock of words, he is sure to succeed. If he can throw in good round sentences, sparkling paragraphs, and plausible notes and reports, he can throw dust into the eyes of the public with the greatest ease. Never mind what the work done may be, good words like good looks constitute the best recommendation. We have a beautiful illustration of this saying of our friend in the performances of the Health-Officer of Calcutta. He is an adroit writer, and the skill with which he can marshall his sentences covers a multitude of sins of commission and omission, which he may commit. He gave a highly coloured picture of the evils of the tanks in the town, and the fiat went forth that they should be "evacuated" at once. No doubt the tanks were unsightly, and as the words of the Health-Officer were very graphic it was assumed that they must be a fruitful source of the sanitary ills, which he had so vividly depicted. They were pronounced by the Health-Officer to be the seed-beds of cholera and who could resist such a terrible verdict? True, it was pointed out that the people did not *drink* the water of these tanks, that they used it for washing and other domestic purposes, that they were compelled to resort to the tanks because they had no water supply in the bye-lanes and bustees, that the soil in those localities was contaminated owing to defective sanitary arrangements, which ought to be remedied first; but the words of the Health-Officer, were omnipotent, and the Commissioners, fearing his alarming predictions, gave consent to his proposed raid against the tanks, not without however laying down a cautious procedure for his guidance, which as the revelations made at the last meeting of the corporation shewed had been deliberately and ostentatiously set at naught. We will come to this point bye and bye, but we will first compare the work done with the words of the Health-Officer. It is remarkable that while that officer is ready with his stock of words, he keeps facts and figures, such as might throw light on his words, as much in the background as possible. For instance, while he was active in his de-watering operations, his report does not shew how many tanks were "de-watered" in what wards and at what dates. For all these particulars we are indebted to the Engineer. But there is no lack of sweeping generalizations. Thus the Health-Officer says, "the evidence on which I continue to urge the adoption of these measures is, as before, the fact that wherever cholera has prevailed there has been foul water, and where the water has been removed cholera has diminished. "Now, do the facts, which we glean from his and the Engineer's reports support these assertions? Do we find that Cholera obeys a fixed law, that it prevails wherever there has been foul water, and that it diminishes, where the water has been removed? A single fact is worth a thousand speculations, and although we do not lay claim to any professional knowledge we submit that the following facts may be as well understood by an unprofessional as by a professional man. We invite the attention of the reader to the subjoined statement:

	Wards.	Deaths from Cholera in 1876.	Deaths from Cholera in April 1877.	May 1877.	June 1877.	No. of Tanks De-Watered.
1	Shampooker	111	12	1	2	1
2	Coomertoly	141	17	11	1	3
3	Burtollah	162	13	5	3	27
4	Sukea's Street	104	18	...	1	3
5	Jorabagan	190	13	7	...	1
6	Jorasanko	133	17	5	2	10
7	Burrabazar	66	11	7	2	..
8	Colootollah	233	20	15	7	6
9	Moocheepara	129	19	8	3	5
10	Bowbazar	77	10	1	...	2
11	Puddopooker	50	6	2	1	12
12	Waterloo Street	11	...	..	...	...
13	Fenwick Bazar	81	8	6	1	...
14	Toltollah	110	7	1	1	7
15	Collinga	71	3	..	..	3
16	Park Street	5	...	2	...	...
17	Bamun Bustee	34	...	...	1	...
18	Hastings	36	3	1	1	...
		1,744	177	72	26	80

Now, what do the facts given above shew? Do

they prove any thing to support the Health-Officer's theory? Do they prove that cholera has prevailed where there has been foul water and diminished where the water has been removed? It would be remembered that the greatest hubbub was made last year about the Taltollah section, which it was urged was studded with filthy tanks, but it would be seen that this ward stood seventh in the list of cholera deaths; the number of deaths in the Colootolla section, in which by the bye the drainage system has been completed, was 223; in Jorabagan 190; in Burtollah 162; in Coomertolly 141; in Jorasanko 133; in Moochepara 129, and in Taltollah 110. So much for the statement that cholera was raging epidemically in the Taltollah section. Again, the vigour with which the tanks were de-watered in particular wards we take to be a measure of the necessity of the de-watering process in those wards in the opinion of the Health-Officer. Now, the Burtollah ward must have been the worst in the eyes of the Health-Officer, because in that ward he de-watered no less than 27 tanks; but in Burtolla during the last quarter the number of cholera deaths was in April 13, in May 5, and in June 2, whereas in Shampookur, where only one tank was de-watered, the number of cholera deaths was in April 12, in May 1, in June 2; similarly in Coomertolly, where three tanks were de-watered, the number of cholera deaths in April was 17, May 11, and June 1; again in Sukea's Street, where three tanks were dewatered, the number of cholera deaths was in April 18, in May none, and in June 1; in Jorabagan where three tanks were de-watered the number of cholera deaths in April was 13, in May 7, and in June 1, but in Jorasanko where ten tanks were de-watered the number of cholera deaths in April was 17, in May 5, and in June 2, while in Burrabazar where not a single tank was de-watered the number of deaths in April was 11, in May 7, and in June 2. It is evident from these figures that cholera has prevailed and diminished quite irrespective of the presence and removal of foul water; that in fact it follows a mysterious law of its own, which our doctors have not yet been able to discover, and that the raid against the tanks is therefore a mere freak, which is attempted to be sanctified by the name of science. A speaker at the last meeting of the corporation quoted the highest medical adviser of the Government of India against the water theory, on which the de-watering process of the Health-Officer is based. Dr. Cunningham, the Sanitary Commissioner, in his report on the cholera epidemic of 1872, says; "There is no instance in the whole course of last year's epidemic in which any special severity of the disease among any particular section of the community can be associated with the use of a particular water used by that section. In Lahore, for example, there are 1,400 wells; in Anarkullee they are also very numerous; but there is no suspicion that persons using any one of those wells suffered more than others, much less that the severity of the outbreak was confined to these drinking from particular wells. Both here and in the city of Peshawur, where also the wells may be numbered by hundreds, the disease was spread generally among the people. In these places, and in many other instances which may be cited, we find numbers of people drawing from many different sources, and yet all suffering to much the same extent, a result which is hardly reconcilable with the idea that the attacks were caused by any specific poison accidentally introduced into the water supply." Again: "In the whole course of the epidemic there is not a single instance in which the cessation of the disease can be attributed to the disuse of any particular water. At Cawnpore it was said that the shutting up wells was attended with benefit, but there are no facts to support this conclusion. At Gujranwalla, as already stated, it was supposed that an outbreak of five cases had been stopped by closing a well; but in this very village, sometime after, another outbreak of four cases occurred, no well was closed, and the disease ceased just as suddenly as it had done before—an illustration of how dangerous it is to connect two events together as standing in the relation of cause and effect, without large and very precise evidence."

Now, whom are we to believe, the highest medical adviser of the Government of India or the Health-Officer of Calcutta? The one investigated the origin of cholera when it raged epidemically throughout India, carrying off no less than a lack and fifty thousand persons, while the other reported upon the effects of a season, which he admits was peculiarly mild, not to say that the figures gave a flat contradiction to his theory. Dr. Coates, Principal of the Medical College, backed Dr. Payne with his Mofussil experience, and what did his opinion amount to? He cited the history of cholera in Chittagong after the late flood, which carried carcasses into drinking water tanks; but surely Dr. Coates would not maintain that tanks in Calcutta and those in Chittagong after the storm-wave were in the same condition. Then as regards the tanks in the Mofusil they are in most places the sole source of drinking water, whereas the water of the tanks in Calcutta is used only for washing and other domestic purposes, not for drink. How could then the two cases be parallel? And yet upon such opinion as this the Commissioners are asked to fill up the tanks in the town without however giving the inhabitants a substitute. Dr. Coates agreed with Dr. Rajendralala Mitra that no water would be a greater evil than dirty water, and yet he had not the courage to raise his voice against the wholesale evacuation of tanks. So much for the principle of de-watering.

The procedure was still more audacious. The Municipal Commissioners at a previous meeting had passed the following Resolution:

"When a tank is reported by the Health-Officer to be unhealthy, the Chairman will intimate the same to the Commissioners of the ward in which the tank is situated, and will convene a Meeting of the Committee to decide what steps should be immediately taken. If the tank is found offensive, and the proprietor is ascertained to be a well-to-do person, proceedings may be taken under Section 257 of the Municipal Act IV, (B. C.) of 1876, and the owner called upon to improve its conditions. In cases in which the owner is not in a position to undertake any improvements, the Municipality will undertake the pumping out of the water and the filling up of the tank must be carried out as the circumstances may require. The operations for filling up tanks will be confined as much as possible to the cold weather and to the hot weather. No carcases are, under any circumstanced to be buried in these tanks, and under no circumstances should sweepings be thrown into any tank in which there is water. Sweepings should be covered as much as possible, with earth."

In not a single case was this procedure followed. When the Health-Officer was taken to task for this deliberate disregard of the Resolution of the Commissioners, the Chairman chivalrously came to his rescue, and took the responsibility upon himself, but in doing so he justified the ignoring of the Resolution on the ground that the emergency was great. Now 80 tanks were de-watered, and was the emergency equally great in all cases? If it was so, then cholera must have been raging epidemically, for the Health-Officer was busy in most of the wards; but he himself admits that the last was a most mild cholera season. Even if the emergency was great, why did not the Health-Officer report it to the Committee or the Commissioners after doing his work, but there is not a word either in his or in the Chairman's report about it. Further, the summary proceedings of the Health-Officers have resulted in financial loss to the Municipality, and this loss the Commissioners must make good by increase of taxation, or perhaps by reducing necessary expenditure. Such a deliberate insult to a public body by its executive is not known in the history of any popular institution. We should like to know how would officers guilty of such gross misconduct be dealt with by an English corporation? Of course the Calcutta corporation mainly consists of natives, and who cares for these natives? And because they speak out, resent, and protest, they are called by all manner of names. The *Englishman*, which has succeeded of late in producing a close imitation of the style of our Health-Officer in its leaders on municipal politics, is loud in abusing the Commissioners for asserting their position under the law, and for resisting the high-handed attempts made to override common sense in the name of science. But the writer should remember that abuse is not argument; he may laugh at the "Babus" to scorn, taunt them with a love of filth and rupees, (the latter failing so conspicuous by its entire absence among his countrymen) and threaten them with extinction, but the "Babus" understand their position, duties, and responsibilities, and they are not the men to be brow-beaten by newspaper diatribes or ridicule. They held their own fast enough at the late corporation, and they had the satisfaction to see their present traducers follow them suit. Let our contemporary refer to his own files and he will find that in his own columns the very men, whom he is vilifying, were held up not only to their own but also to his own countrymen as examples of intelligence public spirit and independence. These gentlemen are well acquainted with the high-ways and bye-ways of public life; they have worked long enough with Englishmen, and they fully appreciate their good qualities; they are satisfied that the *Englishman* of Hare Street does not represent the sentiments and opinions of genuine Englishmen, who like fair play, detest underhand manipulations, abhor the tyranny of any clique of men, scientific or non-scientific, and are the last to support anybody, who dares infringe the law or constitutional procedure. A few such Englishmen built up the fabric of the late Municipal corporation, and it is because they are no longer in that body the *Englishman* has the temerity to attack principles, which are sacred in the eyes of all Englishmen, and which surely do not lose their sanctity because it is natives who are called upon to defend them. A time will come when this exponent of English opinion will have to repent the part he is playing in countenancing the open defiance of the constitution. With all its faults the present Municipal Corporation is based on the right principle, which is the sovereignty of the people; it may be greatly strengthened and improved, if a few good, honest and independent Englishmen will enter it; but if it be extinguished from an unmeaning and unworthy jealousy of the "Babus"—there was no such jealousy in days not long gone by—the capital would be thrown fifty years back—and then the *Englishman* we make no doubt will feel ashamed of the work he has done. If the Commissioners are wrong in facts or in their opinions, by all means point out their errors, but to pour upon them vulgar abuse and vile ridicule is not to correct them. We do not wish to meet abuse with abuse; we leave that agreeable task to our exemplary contemporary; we need not tell him that if he hopes to gag the mouths of the experienced and independent members of the corporation by jibes, taunts, and threats, he is very much mistaken.

Since the above was in type we received this letter from Dr. Coates:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—I find the published records of what I stated at the last Municipal Meeting omit a rather important point, viz that the water of tanks which are properly banked and guarded against surface contaminations and other impurities do not cause Cholera.

It is only the filthy tanks and those whose banks and neighbourhoods are allowed to become receptacles of filth which blowing or flowing into the water putrifies there; and it is only while this putrifactive process is going on that the water has been found dangerous to life.

After this process has ceased the water ceases to be a cause of blood and bowel diseases. The raid against the tanks then is neither indiscriminate nor constant. The Health-Officer would be a most unworthy servant of the Corporation, if, when he found the tanks in the state he has described them, [and no man yet has contradicted those statements] and the people dying in their neighbourhood from this cause, he did not represent the matter to be so, and to suggest that such tanks should be de-watered at once. But our last meeting has brought to light the fact that the Health-Officer's own statements are not taken and acted on without a personal inspection by the Chairman himself, and it is only when the latter finds the foul cause and deadly effect occuring together, that he issues the necessary orders. But more than this it also came out that in no case is a tank or a well filled up without the consent of the owners. Still more one of the last speakers brought to our notice the fact that, where certain wells had been condemned and the Chairman found it would cause a grave inconvenience in the neighborhood, he refused to close them. Could care and discrimination go further?

However it becomes a question of considerable importance whether some of these foul tanks might not have their sides cleared of all filth, their margins raised and fenced in and the surrounding drainage directed away from them to preserve them against pollution, instead of filling them in with the ever-objected-to street sweepings, especially where good water is scarce or too distant, I don't think the Health-Officer would object to this, neither would the Commissioners.

I was personally appealed to by one of the able and learned advocates of the retention of these unclean tanks, whether I would have the one just behind my own residence filled up with street sweepings.

I greatly regret that I overlooked this matter in my reply, but I am not so ready and practised at public speaking as I would wish to be, especially when opposed to those who so carefully and regularly elaborated their arguments and who looked up and quoted books with such admirable effect last Wednesday. I may here state, however, that I have already made a couple of unsuccessful efforts to have this tank filled up. If any of the Commissioners will be so good as to

propose its being filled up by the Municipality, they will find that I will be the first to second the measure, and if they don't do so, they will have themselves to blame, if in this particular, my practice does not accord with my principles.

Another point I should like you to notice *viz*, the quotation from Parkes as to the amount of water used in a temperate climate being 35 to 45 gallons per head, per diem, and the inference that at least 50 would be required by the people of Calcutta. I would observe that much of the former water goes in the manufactures in steam, in the washing of clothes and scrubbing floors, but most of all in the flushing of the W.Cs. which usually exist in every flat or story of every house in London. *Here* the children have few or no clothes to wash, and most of the adults can and do wash their entire garments in a few minutes without the loss of much water, and as to the individual latrine arrangements of the great majority, the amount used is smaller still. But were the learned Doctor's inference correct that each man, woman and child would require 50 gallons per diem, every tank would be de-watered by the people themselves and our cry would be all the other way. Suppose 50 houses averaging 5 each drew their water from one tank, at this rate they would dispose of 12,500 gallons daily.

According to the last census Calcutta proper contains4, 29,535 inhabitants. If these used21,476,750gallons aily and Howrah and the suburbs a like proportion, would the sacred Hooghly itself supply them all?

Little filtered water as we get in Calcutta much of this is lost. I rarely visit a house or compound whether European or Native that I do not find the water-cock turned on and flowing constantly. Servants or others turn on the water and allow it to run long after the vessel is full and so very much is wasted. In lately speaking to our Chairman about this he said, he had observed the same and was about applying for a new form of stop-cock that, after being turned on, stopped of itself when a gallon or two had passed through. If this arrangement succeeded in saving any considerable amount of water, I believe it will do so then a proportionate extension of water pipes should be laid down especially in those parts of the town where water is most filthy or where it is least in amount at present.

Yours &c.
J.M. COATES.

We received the above letter too late yesterday, and have therefore no time nor space for comment. We will, however, briefly notice one or two points. As we have shown above from the Health-Officer's own figures it is not proved that foul water and cholera-deaths stand in the relation of cause and effect. We admit that the Chairman inspected the tanks, but why were the Committee ignored? The local knowledge of the Committee might have proved useful. The owners did not as a matter of fact give their consent, as stated by Dr. Coates; if they did give their consent why were the tanks then summarily de-watered or section 257 of Act IV. of 1876 which requires previous notice not attended to? So much for "care and discrimination" shewn in the matter. If due "care and discrimination" had been shewn, there would have been no complaint. As for the other suggestion of Dr. Coates that tanks might be cleared without being filled up, why was it not followed in practice? If Dr. Coates had attempted twice to have the tank near his residence filled up, the question naturally arises, what was the Health-Officer about? With regard to the question of water supply per head, we leave it to Dr. Rajendralala Mitra to answer Dr. Coates on this point, but may we ask the latter whether from the nature of the thing a person wants more water in a cold or in a hot climate. We may add that the native Commissioners do not object to the filling up of dirty tanks, but what they insist upon is this that good water ought to be supplied first before bad water is taken out, and Dr. Coates himself admitted at the meeting that even on hygienic grounds dirty water was preferable to no water.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

THE British Government is a civilized Government. It is superior in intelligence, knowledge, and power than any other Government, which had wielded the sceptre in this country. It has conferred many blessings upon the people, for which they are deeply grateful to it. But its superiority seems to be a source of its weakness. It considers itself so superior to the people that it does not condescend to consult them even in ordinary matters. The result is that it sometimes goes so egregiously wrong that life and money have been wantonly sacrificed to its hobbies. The reader is aware thatBerhampore is an important military station in Bengal; considerable money was laid out in building barracks in it, but from the time of its construction it was never healthy. There was a canker somewhere, which ate into the vitals of the people,who inhabited it, but which nobody could discover. Engineers and doctors repeatedly put their wits together and recommended diverse sanitary improvements at considerable expenditure of money, but nothing availed to restore the salubrity of the place. But neither the engineers nor the Doctors, it would seem had looked with their eyes open. The cause of the unhealthiness of the place was thus described by Raja Degumber Mitter in an article in these columns in 1872:

As regards the Dutch and the French Settlements of Kalkapore and Furrasdanga, these places also situated on the same side of the river with Cossimbazar, and in a continuous line with it. The presence of a Beel, called Bistopore or Kalkapore Beel, to their south-east plainly attests that the drainage of those places must at one time have passed into it, while that of a pucca road between the Beel and the towns, and of another between the Beel and its natural outfall the Gobranalah, likewise attest how completely the drainage of those places had been, and still is, intercepted by those roads. All these places are still in existence, with the same type of fever prevailing in them, though the disease is not so fatal to the residents as to new-comers. Adjoining Furrasdanga, to the south, are situated, in a continuous line, the famous town of Syedabad, the old settlement of the Armenians, Khagra; the native town of Berhampore, famous for its brass cups and plates, and the cantonment of Berhampore itself. All these places drained themselves into the above named Beel Bistopore—the last through a series of tanks. In all these places, fever of the malarious and intermittent type have prevailed endemically since the last 50 or 60 years, though never in that virulent form which caused the utter depopulation of Cossimbazar, Kalkapore, Furrasdanga, Choonakhally and Bhatpara. The cause of this chronic unhealthiness is not far to seek. Beel Bistopore, which is the drainage receptacle of all these places, like Beels Chaltia, Chandor and Bhoula lying to the south and south-east of it, emptied itself through Gobranalla into the Jellenghee, until an embanked Pucca road from the city of Moorsheedabod to the cantonment of Berhampore, constructed some 50 or 60 years, ago completely cut off its communication with this Nalla or Channel, and converted it into a lake without communication with any outfall. As is naturally to be expected from such a state of things, the Beel becomes quite full after a few heavy showers of rain at the commencement of the monsoons when having no outlet for its overflow it refuses to receive the surface drainage from the above named places, and the monsoon water consequently is absorbed in their subsoil. Hence it is that the unhealthiness of those places every year after the close of the rains, bears a direct ratio to the rainfall for the year. It is true enough that there are two sluices constructed in the embankment which protect Berhampore from the inundations of the Bhagiruthi, and are evidently designed to carry off the overflow of the Beel into that river, but it so happens that during the monsoons the water-level of the Bhagiruthi is higher than that of the Beel, consequently the sluices do not answer the object for which they were designed. It is to us unaccountable that these simple facts have never been noticed, and the drainage of the places have not been restored. This restoration can be accomplished easily, and at no great expense, simply by restoring communication of the Beel with the Gobra Nalla by means of a sufficiently wide and deep drain. Though belonging neither to the profession of medicine, nor of engineering, yet we can safely guarantee the recovery, by the places named, of their original healthiness if our simple suggestion be adopted. The improvement, we warrant, will follow within two years of the completion of the proposed drain.

Now in the same year, Mr. Wicke the Executive Engineer, carried out a scheme of drainage, following the lines indicated in the article referred to above, and the result has been most satisfactory. It is thus set forth in the report of the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal for 1872, which was however not submitted till 1874:

"In Berhampore, a notoriously moist and unhealthy station, situated 4 feet below the high flood level of the Bhagiruthee, and protected from inundation by a bund, a drainage scheme devised by Mr. Wicke, the Executive Engineer, and involving no great amount of outlay, receive the sanction of Government in August, and has since been partially completed. The plan, which will easily be understood from the accompanying map, consists in cutting a drain of adequate depth from the barrack square, one of the lowest levels in the station, to the river Gobrah, about 6 miles distant to the eastward. In its course, which is that of the natural dip of the land, this drain taps and carries off the surplus water from two enormous beels, the Chandar and Bhylar beels, east of and contiguous to the sepoy lines. The original scheme contemplated the construction of a branch channel to drain the jail site; but the jail having been removed, this was no longer so necessary, and has been given up. The result of the work appears to have been most satisfactory, and not only has the station been rapidly and effectually drained, but the water has been made use of during the past year of scanty rainfall to irrigate 1,700 beeghas of land which would otherwise have been comparatively unproductive. In 1871, for want of such a drain as this, the whole of the sepoy lines, the race-course and parade-ground, were under water for a month or six weeks, and a great deal of malarious fever prevailed in and around he station.

Now, who was responsible for the past unthealthiness of Berhampore, and for the serious loss of life and money which followed? It would be seen that it was the Moorshedabad road, which passed through the cantonment of Berhampore, and which by obstructing the course of drainage, was the main cause of the unhealthiness of the station. This road was made about 80 years ago; neither the Engineers who made it nor those who came after them looked to the natural level of the tract, and this trivial mistake was the fruitful source of evil for four-fifths of a century. But our Government is superior in intelligence and knowledge, and it was beneath its dignity to consult the people. Nevertheless it is the people who have been sacrificed. The Moorshedabad road has also been the cause of the ruin of Cossim-Bazar. In its passage to Berhampore it entirely cut off Cossim Bazar, Choonakhally and Bhatpara from their first drainage receptacle the Soloa Beel, which was towards the east of these places. (*vide* Rajah Degumber Mitter's pamphlet *p. p.* 18 & 19). The epidemic broke out so virulently in those places that in four or five years they were almost depopulated. At one time they were as densely populated as the part of Calcutta lying on either side of the Chitpore road. These places continue still unhealthy, the cause not having been removed, though the Sanitary Commissioner has made mention only of Cossim-Bazar. As the road passed to Berhampore it obstructed the overflow of Beel Kalkapore *alias* Bistopore in making its way to its natural outfall Gobranala. This Kalkapore beel is the first drainage receptacle of the Dutch and French settlements of Kalkapore and Furrasdanga, Sydabad, Khagra and Berhampore; unlike Cossim-Bazar the road in question did not obstruct the drainage of those places from finding its way to Kalkapore Beel. So the epidemic did not break out so virulently in those places as in Cossim-Bazar &c., but they were rendered chronically unhealthy inasmuch as the road prevented the overflow of the Beel from finding its way to Gobranala, and the Beel when full would not receive the drainage of the villages. For the relief of the Beel two sluices were made to carry off the overflow to the Bhagiruthi, but as the water level of the latter during the rains is higher than that of the Beel the sluices were quite inoperative. (See Raja Degumber Mittra's pamphlet P. P. 19 and 20.)

The first blunder was the construction of the road without reference to the drainage level of such important towns and cities. The second blunder was that when the Engineer discovered that for the proper drainage of some of those places, the Beel must be relieved, he constructed sluices without reference to the water level of the Beel and Bhagiruthee, and it was only in 1872 after the lapse of nearly a century it was discovered that the natural level is towards Gobranala. So much for the professional knowledge of our engineers. It is no wonder therefore that they should have reported that the Eastern Bengal Railway has not interfered with the drainage of the line of villages from Ichapore to Chagda, when the Epidemic broke out simultaniously after the construction of Railway embankments. To improve Cossim Bazar &c. &c. measures must be taken to divert the drainage back to Soloa Beel. The new drain must be also connected with the Kalkapore Beel unless the same should have been already done, otherwise Sydabad and Khagra will not be benefitted. The Sanitary Commissioner in the report quoted above wrote as follows: "It is very desirable that the unhealthy condition of Cossim Bazar, a perfectly pestilential locality about 3 miles north-east of Berhampore, should be remedied; it is purely a question of drainage and conservancy. The people live in a state of chronic fever; all the children have spleen, and though one at least of the landed proprietors (the Ranee Shurnomoyi) is very charitable, and gives freely both medicine and food, these can only be considered as palliatives. The place should be drained, the tanks cleaned, and the excessively filthy habits of the people put an end to." But nothing has yet been done.

Take another instance. There is a well-known village in the Serampore Sub-division named Chattra. Its drainage was obstructed by a Railway embankment. For nearly fifteen years it suffered from malarious fever till in 1869 a new drainage outlet was opened and the healthiness of the place was restored. In the report quoted above the Sanitary Commissioner writes: "Epidemic fever of a bad type broke out

about July 1872 in Connagur, Rishera, and Biddabatty, attacked whole families, and lasted until September, when 1,200 people were reported to have been laid up. It then gradually passed on to Mohesh. In October it was very bad in Bullubpore, and in November and December it raged in Serampore. It extended beyoud Connagur even up to Howrah, being most prevalent in places along the banks of the Ganges, with the exception of Chattra between Biddabatty and Serampore, where few cases occurred. This immunity of Chattra from the disease may be owing to the facts that it had suffered severely in the winter of 1869, and that a new drain had been cut during the year to relieve the surface drainage, which the railway embankment had prevented from flowing inland into a bheel."

We will give another example. There is a continuous line of villages from Ichapur to Chagda, some of them thickly peopled, and standing on elevated places, such as Halishahar and Kanchrapara. As Raja Degumber Mitter in his fever pamphlet points out these places are all situated on the eastern bank of the Hooghly, the farthest not being more than forty miles from Calcutta. The drainage of these villages, until the obstruction offered to it by the Eastern Bengal Railway, first ran in a direction away from the river on which they stand, but eventually came back to it through the two khals called the Ichapur Khal and Bager Khal. Neither the Hooghly river nor the khals have silted up, and yet the people of all those villages suffered from a severe type of the epidemic fever, which broke out exactly in the order of time in which the railway embankment progressed and passed along their eastern borders, completely shutting out their drainage from the Beels Burrotee and Mothoora. An Engineer officer was deputed in 1864 to report on these villages, but strange to say he came to the conclusion "that the Eastern Bengal Railway had not affected the drainage." Now it is as plain as a pikestaff, that the Estern Bengal Railway has obstructed the drainage running, as it does, between Hallisahar, Kanchrapara, Chagda and many other intermediate places —all, so situated as to have the river Hooghly on the one side, and the Beels Burrottee and Mothoora on the other. It cannot be pretended that the section of the railway in question lying between Hallisahar and Chagda, is furnished with culverts at short intervals, or that the drainage of the above villages is made to flow towards those culverts, and yet the engineer gave his dictum "that the Eastern Bengal Railway had not affected the drainage."

The result is that these villages are being decimated by the fell fever without any measures being taken to restore their natural drainage. And we ask who is responsible for this wanton waste of human life? Science has been overriding common sense, and our civilized Government quietly submits to this tyranny. It is not however the fault of science; true science does not halt; it is the misguided judgment of men, who claiming the authority of science, pooh-pooh at common sense. The Government has lately appointed a Commission to report again on the causes of the epidemic fever. For our part we think it is labour thrown away; it is now generally admitted that it is sub-soil humidity, caused by obstructed drainage, which is the seed-bed of the disease. Suppose the new Commission again assert the tyranny of so-called science over common sense, will our common sense Government submit to it? We cannot believe it. Mr. Eden is too shrewd to be led away by scientific jargon. The question is one of vital importance; it affects the health and lives of hundreds and thousands of people; and we hope that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor will brush away the cobwebs of scientific sophistry in the interest of public health and humanity. We have great faith in his common sense, and we hope he will give it fair play.

WEATHER AND CROP REPORTS.

THE weather and crops prospects throughout India have not been very assuring since the last few days. The Government of India has therefore wisely taken the time by the forelock, and arranged for daily telegraphs from the different provinces. We have accordingly made arrangements for daily telegraphic summary from Simla. We give below the telegrams received from day to day;

Simla 23rd July 1877.

Daily telegraphic weather and crop reports: Bengal twentieth, rainfall last two day's general, in Behar and Chota Nagpore, all crop reports favourable. In Central Provinces twenty-first: no rain but crop prospects favorable. Burmah steady rain. Rajpatana no more rain but no present apprehension of scarcity. In Western States, North West Provinces up to twentysecond no rain. Mysore twenty first: no rain, prospects bad. Madras ditto, no rain except in Vizagapatam two inches. On Sixteenth Peelair in Cuddapha half inch and more further South and in Mangalore more than two inches on Seventeenth. Punjab twenty second: slight rain at Delhi, Bombay. Twenty second no rain except slight showers at Satara.

Simla 24th July 1877.

Weather reports up to twenty-third confirm favourably prospects of crops throughout Bengal, and there is favourable change in Mysore. Clouds from South-West and slight showers in Bangalore. No change in Madras, North-West and Bombay, kharif prospects better in Sind, but gloomy in Deccan and South Maratha country unless rain falls soon.

Simla 25th July 1877.

Weather report up to twenty-fourth for Madras good. Rain in Godavary, South Canara. Malabar slight in Vizagapatam Kristna, Cuddapah, North Arcot and Tennevelly, for Bengal accounts favorable, except more now parts in Patna Shahabad Gya and Saran and crops suffering from former drought in North Bhagalpur, for Hydrabad sky overcast for Mysore weather Moonsoonish but only slight showers in Bangalore, for Bombay slight rain, in Satara Sholapore Poona Karwar Nosik no rain, in Khandish and consequent mortality of cattle for North West no rain except slight at Benares.

Simla 26th July 1877.

Weather reports up to twenty-fifth, Madras slight rain in most districts, but none in Ganjam, Nellore Bellary and Salem, Bombay, rain in Shollapur showers in Colaba and Tanna want of rain beginning to be felt in Guzerat. Mysore good rain in Bangalore believed to be general throught the province. Hyderabad two hours rain and more expected the weather elsewhere is unchanged. Stock rice in Calcutta just now fifty lakhs of maunds.

Simla 27th July 1877.

Report up to twenty-sixth. Bombay no rain in Sind or Gzuerat good fall of two and half inches of rain at Sholapur no rain in North West Provinces Oudh Rajputana Mysore Madras, except slight shower in Madras City shower fallen in Mysore not sufficient marrially to improve prospect. Bengal reports good rain in Sarun and showers in Gya but no proper rains yet in Shahabad or in Patna district.

Simla 28th July 1877.

To-day's *Gazette* telegraphic correspondence on stocks available for export to Madras if needed. Bombay and great Indian Peninsula awaiting transport, one hundred twenty one thousand tons more believed forthcoming if needed. Bombay offers send Raichore twelve hundred tons daily, but Madras railway only carrying nine hundred balance three hundred will be sent daily Hydrabad; estimated capabilities of North West if Kharif harvest good two hundred twenty thousand tons Bengal available stock at present thirty five thousand tons balance of fifty lakhs maunds now in Calcutta being required for local consumption. Central Provinces ninety thousand tons now and believed hundred thirty thousand more if prices in famine districts rule high but from former total eighty thousand must be deducted because included in Bombay estimate. Burmah doubt whether any more rice available. Letter from Calcutta Chamber of Commerce declares information furnished by Government of India will guide operations of merchants. General remarks on week's weather, rainfall scanty everywhere except Bengal Burma Assam and parts of Central Provinces and Rajputana, elsewhere great anxiety felt and some places great damage already done to crops. To-days telegrams report good rain in all Nagpur districts, also Jubulpur and Seonee, wanted in Nerbudda and Chattisgarh, good rain in Salem Cuddapah. Trichinopoly, Godavery, Vizagapatam, some in Madras and Bellary. No rain in Central India, North West and Rajputana. From Bengal Tirhoot crops very favorable. More rain wanted in Chota Nagpur.

Simla 29th July 1877.

Weather twenty-eighth. Rain fallen generally throughout Mysore and Coorg more needed, report from Hydrabad states ground well saturated; monsoon seems fairly set in. From Central Provinces; rain prospects favorable. From Bengal abnormal rainfall in Rungpore and Mymensing, more wanted in Purneah and Chota Nagpore, rice marked in Calcutta quiet with falling tendency. Weather unchanged elsewhere. Barometer falling in Western Rajpootana and weather cloudy. Steady rain set in at Simla to-day Sunday.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant Governor returned to Calcutta yesterday. His Honor passed through the Sunderbuns, and landed at Wharf No. 1, Garden Reach, yesterday at about 1 P. M. His visit to East Bengal according to all accounts has left a very good impression.

OUR SPECIAL correspondent at Simla telegraphs to us to say that Mr. Phillips resigns his appointment as Secretary to the Legislative Department of the Government of India from next November. His resignation is due solely to domestic and private reasons. It is believed that Government will obtain as his successor one of the ablest of the pupils of Sir Henry Thring, the famous Parliamentary draftsman.

THE ABOLITION of all postal charges on re-direction, already referred to in a previous issue as probable, has been sanctioned, and will come into effect from 1st January next. The abolition is in accordance with the declared policy of the General Postal Union, and will greatly conduce to public and departmental convenience; whilst the slight loss of revenue will be recouped to some extent by the consequent saving of some departmental expenses, especially those hitherto incurred on the large number of re-directed covers ultimately refused by the addressees.

THE LOCAL Government estimates the stocks of rice in Calcutta at about fifty lacs of maunds. This is we believe much near the mark; there has been lately considerable importation of mungi rice from Rungpore and Dinagepore, and the imports are daily increasing. Of course this estimate includes stocks in and around Calcutta. We are glad to learn that in consequence of the late rains the price of rice has gone down in Madras one rupee, and in Calcutta 12 annas a maund. The market is gradually rallying.

WE WISH His Honor the Lieutenant Governor would throw oil over troubled waters in Chittagong. We have received another long letter from our Chittagong correspondent and a copy of a memorial of the late Tehsildar to the Lieutenant Governor; we propose to notice both in our next. In the meantime may we ask why Mr. Lowis did not meet the Lieutenant Governor at Commilla. He had of course his own reasons, but some people seem to think that it is no joke for a nervous man to stand Mr. Eden's cross-examination.

WE LATELY noticed the proposition made by Sir Joseph Fayrer for the registration of the medical graduates of the Indian Universities. We have since been furnished with a copy of the Minutes of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration. Dr. Fayrer's proposition we observe has been favourably received. The effect of the registration will be that not only Indian medical graduates will be permitted to practise in the United Kingdom, but will also be eligible to medical appointments in the colonies. We are glad to learn that Dr. Chevers has interested himself in this question.

MR. N. A CHICK has favoured us with an "imperial boquet of pretty flowers," which consists of selections from the poems and Indian speeches of Lord Lytton. The poems are very pretty, and the speeches are too well known to require any fresh notice at our hands. A *critique* from the *Pioneer* is annexed to this volume. Those who wish to study Lord Lytton in his poetic moods and to drink of the refreshing fount of his eloquence ought not to be without a copy of this volume.

WHILE changes are being made in the Education Department we deem it due to draw the attention of Government to the Normal School of Calcutta. After considerable discussion it was decided by Government about two years ago that a Normal School should be maintained in the capital as a model. Now all other metropolitan institutions have local habitations of their own; why should not the Normal School have one? We hear that the house, which it occupies, is for sale, and it would be a pity if the Government lets this opportunity slip. It made attempts before to purchase the house, but was unsuccessful. If it allows this house to pass into other hands, it will not get an equally good house in the Native Town.

WE ARE informed on reliable authority that there is no truth in the rumour noticed by a morning contemporary regarding alleged purchases of Government securities by the Bank of Bengal for Government before opening of tenders for the new loan. No such operations took place either directly or indirectly on behalf of Government, and a minimum was fixed by Government for the tenders. One thing, however, remains explained. Is it true that the Bank of Bengal maa heavy purchases just on the eve of the tenders, which

tended to mislead the public and made the Bank a loser. If so, the share-holders ought to call upon the Directors for an explanation.

MISFORTUNES never come singly. The Byturni in Orissa has overflowed. The following letter, which contains an account of the disaster, has been placed at our disposal :

"What could I write to you: I would have been no more with my whole family by this time. On the 13th inst, a day I shall ever remember the River Byturni rose so high that the people have said it was higher than they ever saw it before doing havoc to the country in the North and carrying away innumerable cattle and human lives. At 3 P.M. (13th July) the water overtopped the land in front of my Bungalow when I ran up for a boat for my family. Just as I returned half the way with the boat the bund breached in several places both in front and rear. I was obliged to swim and take shelter on a tree where I remained the whole night and until 12 o'clock the next day. During the whole of this time I could take no notice of my family, but thought they were carried away. At last a jolly boat was sent for my rescue and as I got on her and came the village (Achnapodda) I saw there was not a single house standing save my Bungalow. I found my family, by the mercy of God, saved. There was no food or water on the floor of the Bungalow. Imagine with what trouble and anxiety we passed those days.

The floods besides depopulating good many villages have damaged the Canal Works to no end. All the big officials were here for inspection, but none yet came forward to relieve the people. There will probably be famine this year here."

THE ALLOTMENTS given to Bengal under the decentralization scheme have not been fair. The local Government finds it hard to make the two ends meet. Mr. Eden we are glad to learn has succeeded in getting some slight concession for this year. We are informed that in consideration of certain representations from Government of Bengal the contribution from this province for the current year on account of Irrigation Works and State Railways has been fixed at twenty lakhs instead of twenty-seven lakhs and forty-seven thousand as originally directed.

THERE has been a *contretemps* at Quettah. Our special correspondent at Simla has sent us the following telegrams on the subject dated the 28th instant :

"An unfortunate disturbance was reported yesterday by telegram from Quetta. An emeute broke out from some cause as yet unknown among the Pathan Coolies employed on our works who murdered Lieutenant Hewson. Before assistance could be rendered the ringleaders were at once seized and a strict investigation into the causes of the disturbance is being held. No political significance whatever is attached to the disturbance as it was entirely confined to our own Coolies and suppressed without difficulty. As a precautionary measure a part of the force subsequently occupied the Quetta fort, but a further telegram this morning reports quiet and the investigation proceeding satisfactorily.

The investigation into the disturbance at Quetta is being conducted by the Vakil and the Naib of the Khas Khelat together with three of the Chief Sirdars. It is believed that the outrage was committed in revenge for some trifling punishment inflicted on the headmen of a neighbouring village.

WE ARE sorry to learn that Mr. Justice Macpherson has sent in his resignation, and retires in October next. He is the senior Barrister Judge of the High Court. About twenty-five years ago he came out to India as a Barrister ; naturally of a retiring disposition he did not make much progress at the bar, and after a few years' stay he accepted the first Judgship of the Calcutta Small Cause Court ; he next became Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council and then to the Imperial Legislative Council. From the Council he was promoted to the bench of the High Court. He is a man of strong common sense, extremely cautious, and quite unostentatious. As a Judge he has been most painstaking, patient and cool-headed. Indeed he is looked upon by both the bar and the general public as the safest Judge of the High Court. He is not retiring as we see it stated in consequence of the present attitude of Government towards the High Court Judges; it is family reasons we are credibly informed which have induced him to leave India.

THE LAST number of the *Calcutta Gazette* contains the Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor on the revised scheme for the working of the education department, the leading features of which we foreshadowed in our last. It bears the stamp of a vigorous and practical mind. While giving Sir George Campbell his due for initiating the present system of primary education, and localizing educational control, Mr. Eden has materially altered the principle in which Sir George had based his measures. He has restored the authority of the Director of Public Instruction, and given the Inspector his proper status, who will no longer be reference clerks, to which both were reduced under Sir George's plan. The management of primary schools will remain in the hands of the Magistrate. The Director will be recognised as holding the same position in respect to primary education that he now holds in other branches of the educational system. The apportionment of the primary grant to the sub-divisions of the district, the appointment, transfer, and removal of gurus and the regulation of their rates of pay, are all left to the Magistrate. In regard to primary education, the Inspector's chief function will still be to observe and advise. If the Magistrate differs from or neglects to attend to the Inspector's suggestions the Inspector will refer the question to the Commissioner, and if the Commissioner agrees with the Inspector, their view must prevail. If the Commissioner and Inspector disagree, the former will refer the matter to Government through the Director. If, however, the Director concur with the Commissioner, no reference to Government will be necessary. As regards the aided schools the Inspector will deal with applications for grants in-aip in the first instance, and will propose the establishment and amount of grant. The District Committee will be at liberty to suggest any modifications, and if the Inspector declines to accept them, reference will be made by the Inspector to the Commissioner, and, if necessary, to the Director and Government. No grant should be withdrawn by the Committee without the full concurrence of the Inspector ; but the Inspector will have power to suspend any grant, and to propose its withdrawal, for the consideration of the Committee, differences of opinion being settled by reference to the Commissioner and the higher authorities in the manner already described. The general management of the zillah and Government vernacular schools will continue to be vested in the District Committee. Then four new educational circles will be added viz. Orissa, Chota Nagpore, Bhangulpore, and Chittagong; to these schools native inspectors will be appointed on Rs. 400 a month, who will be called Joint Inspectors or Assistant Inspectors.

These are the main features of the new scheme. It is a step in advance, but we are afraid that the sub-division of authority is somewhat complicated. The number of references is so much multiplied that the circumlocution system we fear will flourish in all its glory. For our part we think it would be better if a broad line of distinction were drawn between the authority of the Inspectors and that of the District officers. If the Inspectors were vested with undivided control over expenditure and general supervision, and the Magistrate and District Committee with superintendence of instruction in the schools, we are inclined to think that there would be less room for friction or conflict of authority. The best part of the new arrangements is the transfer of audit to the Director's office.

DR. PAYNE'S THEORY OF CHOLERA IN TANKS ILLUSTRATED.

"THE evidence on which I continue to urge the adoption of these measures (evacuation and filling up of tanks) is, as before, the fact that wherever cholera has prevailed there has been foul water, and where the water has been removed, cholera has diminished." *Second Quarterly Report*

Deaths from Cholera during the week ending 21st July 1877.

Wards.	No. of deaths.	No. of Tanks De-watered.	Wards.	No. of deaths.	No. of Tanks De-watered.
Shampooker	1	1	Bowbazar	...	2
Coomertoly	...	3	Paddopooker	1	12
Burtollah	1	27	Waterloo Street	...	...
Sukea's Street	1	3	Fenwickbazar	1	...
Jorabagan	...	1	Toltollah	...	7
Jorasanko	1	10	Collinga	..	3
Burrabazar	...	...	Park Street	...	...
Colootollah	...	6	Bamun Bustee	...	...
Moochoepara	1	5	Hastings	..	...

REVIEW.

A Biographical Sketch of David Hare. By Peary Chand Mitra, Newman & Co. Calcutta.

BABU Peary Chand Mitra's book is valuable not only because it gives a connected narrative of the life and deeds of the great philanthropist, David Hare, whose name is still cherished in grateful remembrance by the people of Bengal, but also because it contains a very interesting picture of the time and of the characters of the men, who flourished under the system of education, of which he was the founder and father. The leading incidents of the life of David Hare are well known, and we will not therefore reproduce them, but we will give some of its reminiscenes.

Hare rubbed boys with his own hand.

Mr. Hare used often to stand at the gate of his School with a towel in his hand, at the time when it broke up in the afternoon, to rub the limbs of the boys with it to see whether they have got any dirt on their person. He thus tried to introduce habits of cleanliness.

Hare's Fondness of Children.

Babu Govind Chunder Dutt says; when quite a child I used to visit David Hare in his house in company of my grandfather Nelloo Dutt and get toys, bats, and books from him. I had the run of the whole house on such occasions when the two old gentlemen sat quietly talking—the best part of a day. I still have a clock marked with the name of Hare.

Hare's courage.

A drunken sailor, a big, brawny athlete of a fellow passing by the college, took it into his head to quarrel with the coachman of one of the students whose carriage was standing at the gate. The coachman and syces fled, and the sailor picked up a thick stick from the college compound, and began to demolish the carriage. I was looking on with two or three others, as young and puny, quite safely ensconsed in a window of the upper floor of the Sanscrit College. The durwans of the College came out and interposed, but they beat a hasty retreat into their dens, when the sailor turned upon them with his formidable extemporised bludgeon. The carriage was utterly ruined, and the victorious sailor went away flourishing his shillalah. At this moment, when he had vanished, Mr. Hare's palankeen came in sight. The durwans turned out as smart as ever. What is this ? Who has broken the carriage here ? Asked Mr. Hare. The durwans explained the matter to him, and pointed out to him the way the sailor had gone. Mr. Hare, told as he was went off like an arrow. In ten minutes the man was secured and made over to the police.

Hare's religion.

Mr. Hare has sometimes been charged with a want of faith in the doctrines of our blessed religion. I never spoke to him on the subject. I was not a Christian myself when he died. Like Mr. Benson the minister at Castlewood in Thackeray's Esmond I can only say. "I know not what the Colonel's doctrine was, but his life was that of a veritable Christian."

Babu Peary Chand Mitra gives the following account of the coteries, which used to cluster round H, V. Derozio, and which constituted Hare's pride :

The pupils who constantly sought for Derozio's company were Krishna Mohun Banerjea, Russic Krishna Mullick, Duckhina Runjun Mookerjea, Ramgopaul Ghose, Madhubchunder Mullick, Ramtunoo Lahiri, Mohes Chunder Ghose, Shib Chunder Dev, Haru Chunder Ghose, Radhanath Sickdar, Gobind Chunder Bysack, Amrita Lall Mittra, and others who may be called the "Young Calcutta." The first four for sometime acted as firebrands. Five moderated their impulsiveness. The uppermost thought was to expose Hinduism, and to renounce it. Krishna Mohun Banerjea, who is naturally humourous and satirical, came out with a work called the "Persecuted," in which he exposed the heterodoxy of the Hindus who passed as members of the orthodox community, and shewed that there was no such thing as *caste* after all. It was apprehended that Russic Krishna Mullick would turn out a renegade and he was therefore drugged. He was insensible during the night. In the morning, while he was being put in irons for the purpose of being packed off to some distant place where he would have no evil companions, his consciousness returned, and he resisted the attempt. Abandoning his fathers's house, he lived at Chorebagan, and conducted the *Gyananeshan*. Duckhina Runjun was of sanguine temperament and susceptible of good influences. His heart warmed at the distress of others. When Tarachand Chuckerbutty was in distress Duckhina Runjun sent him a Bank note for Rs. 1000 as a gift *anonymously*. Tarachand afterwards traced his benefactor, and arranged with him to re-receive the money as a loan. Ramgopaul was, at Hare's recommendation, appointed as an assistant to a mercantile house. His sympathy with Derozio, Krishna Mohun and Russic was deep. Latterly he regarded Russic as clear headed, well-grounded in general principles cautious in generalizing, and philosophical in reasoning. It may be mentioned, that although Russic was not an eloquent speaker, he was so thoughtful in his exposition and argumentation, that he was always listened to with greatest attention, more especially by Mr. Hare and Mr. Anderson of Colvin & Co. who frequently attended the meetings of the Academic, and liked much to hear Russic. The lesson which Russic Krishna taught was *precision of thought and expression*. Madhub Chunder Mullick was a quiet enquirer, but his quitness did not in any way impair the strength of his decision. Bhowbani Churn Benerjea attributed to Madhub Chunder *Hinduism*. which he renounced in a strong letter published in an English Newspaper. Ramgopaul continued to shine as a speaker at the Academic and a writer in Russic's paper. He was an eloquent but not so close a reasoner as Russic. His association with his colleagues, the pioneers of reform, threw him into difficulties. It was notorious that he had departed from Hinduism ; his kith and kin at *Bagati*, where his domicile was, excommunicated him, and his sins were visited upon his father, who was nicknamed "Beef-eating Gobind Ghose." Gobind Chunder Bysack while at School was a poet and was a young man of high literary attainments. He studied Paley and other theological writers. He wrote a series of articles against Christianity in the Reformer, of which Prosonccoomar Tagore was the proprietor, to some of which replies appeared in the Enquirer from the pen of no less a person than Rose Donnelly Mangles, now of the Council

of India. Gobind established a school at which Dr. Rajendralala Mitra received his education.

The moral lessons taught by Derozio gradually produced good practical effects. Krishna Mohun and Mohesh gradually acquired calmness, and finding a void in Derozio's teachings inasmuch as they did not open the vista into the life to come, began to examine the evidences of Christianity, and at last embraced it. Poor Mohesh did not live long in the flesh as a Christian, but the change in him before his death was marked. Krishna Mohun delivered a sermon on his death at the Old Church, showing that Mohesh the Christian was a different person from Mohesh the heathen. David Hare attended the Old Church and spoke of the sermon in the highest terms. This shows that Hare was a catholic-minded man, and felt interested in the real progress of every person.

Huru Chunder Ghose, who valued Derozio as his tutor, was appointed a Moonsiff at Bancoorah. In those days corruption pervaded the lower grades of the uncovenanted Judicial service. The emolument was nomina'—the temptation was strong—there was no dread of the press—bribery could be practised with impunity. Huru Chunder reduced all he had learnt to the *love of Justice*. He used to read books which would elevate his mind, and feed it with noble thoughts. In a pecuniary point of view the appointment was a loss to him. He had to draw on his family to make up his expenditure, but his happiness knew no bounds when he found that he was distributing *Justice* to the poorer classes of his country. In every nook and corner of Bancoorah his name was revered as a good Judge and a godly man. Huru Chunder's subsequent career is well known. Amirtalall, like Huru Chunder, was quiet. They were apparently orthodox, as they were unwilling to give offence to any one; but while they were socially not of the same mind with their colleagues, they fully went with them as regards the rectitude of conduct and the necessity of reform. Huru Chunder distinguished himself as an incorruptible Judge. Amirtalall was perhaps more in the midst of temptation as the Government officer in charge of Toshakhana. He not only discharged his duties zealously and faithfully, but when he laid down his office he came out perhaps a poorer man than when he accepted it. There are men on whom the perishable world and its grandeur make no impression, and they prefer *living within* and looking up to what is to come in after life. Ramtunoo Lahiri is known more as a *moral* than an *intellectual* man. There are few persons in whom the milk of human kindness flows so abundantly. He was never wanting in his appreciation of what was right, and in his sympathy with advanced principles. He looked upon Russic Krishna as his friend, philosopher and guide.

Radha Nauth Sickdar had an ardent desire to benefit his country. His hobby was beef, as he maintained that beefeaters were never bullied, and that the right way to improve the Bengalees was to think first of the *physique* or perhaps *physique* and *morale* simultaneously. He conducted with me a monthly Bengali Magazine called "Masic Patrica" for about three years. Tarachand Chuckroburttee and Chunder Saikur Deb, though not to be ranked as Derozio's pupils, identified themselves with the "young Calcutta." Tarachand's biographical sketch drawn up by me, appeared in a number of the India Review. He was an excellent English scholar, thoughtful, and thoroughly independent. He was under Mr. L. Clarke as his assistant and was much respected by him. Clarke said to him "you are invaluable to me." Tarachad was the author of a Bengali and English Dictionary, and the Translator of Menu into Bengali, which he did not complete. Chunder Saikur Deb is a man of varied acquirements. He is well versed in English literature, science, law, Sanscrit, and specially in Naya. He wrote a comment on the Revenue law of Bengal. Mr. Theobald, for whom he wrote the comment, found him so deep that he told me that Chunder was fit to sit on the bench

Chunder Saikur, Russic Krishna, Shib Chunder Deb, Gobind Rysack and Madhub Chunder were employed as Deputy Collectors, and distinguished themselves as honest and meritorious officers, finding their reward in doing justice to the people. However brilliant may have been the career of some of these gentlemen, either as regards the culture they reached or the status they attained, those who remained as "inglorious Miltons or village Hampdens" possessed the same earnestness of purpose and love for their country. There is one name which deserves special motion. Shib Chunder Deb was a quiet and unpretending scholar. Those who know the good he has done to Konnugur, where he lives, by the establishment of the English, Bengali and Female schools, a Library and Samaj, will be able to form an idea what the strength of a man is when he is rightly trained.

We have not space for more extracts. The book is very interesting and readable. No one, who wishes to have a glimpse of the career of David Hare and his times, ought to be without a copy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*July* 25, 1877.

GENERAL.—*The* 17*th July* 1877.—Mr. L. C. Abbott, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is appointed temporarily to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of the district, with effect from the date on which he relieved Mr. J. F. K. Hewitt.

The 18*th July* 1877.—Captain T. B. Mitchell is appointed temporarily to be Cantonment Magistrate of Dum-Dum, and to be Judge of the Small Cause Court in that Cantonment.

Baboo Hem Chunder Kerr, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to the district of Sarun.

Moulvi Ikram Rusool, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is transferred to the district of 24-Pergunnahs.

The 19*th July* 1877.—Baboo Aunoda Persaud Sen, Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, is posted to Jhenidah, in Jessore. This cancels the orders of the 12th ultimo, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 20th idem, transferring him to Diamond Harbour, in the 24-Pergunnahs.

Baboo Dwarkanath Moorkerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, at Khoolna, in Jessore, is appointed to be temporarily a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, and is posted to Diamond Harbour in the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr. J. C. Lloyd is appointed to be temporarily a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, and is posted to Khoolna, in Jessore.

The 20*th July* 1877.—Mr. W. N. Campbell, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Palamow sub-division, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B.C) of 1871.

The 21*st July* 1877.—Mr. C. D. C. Winter, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is allowed furlough for sixteen months, under Section 12, Chapter IV of the Civil Leave Code, together with the usual subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days.

Moulvi Abdool Luteef, Khan Bahadoor, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as a Presidency Magistrate for the Town of Calcutta, during the absence, on duty, of Mr. P. D. Dickens, or untill further orders.

The 23*rd July* 1877.—Moulvi Fyzullah Khan, Special Sub-Deputy Collector, Second Grade, employed on land registration work in Chittagong, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade in that district, *vice* Baboo Tarini Lal Chowdry.

The orders of the 8th June last, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 20th idem, appointing Baboo Hurry Puddo Ghose temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, are cancelled. Baboo Hurry Puddo Ghose is appointed to be a Sub-Deputy Collector, Second Grade, in Chittagong, *vice* Moulvi Fyzullah Khan, promoted

Baboo Kristo Kumar Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Moonsheegunge division of the Dacca district. This cancels the orders of the 27th ultimo, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 4th instant, posting him to the Sudder Station of Poore.

Baboo Huro Kali Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Moonsheegunge division of the Dacca district, is transferred to the Sudder Station of Poore.

The 24*th July* 1877.—Mr. T. A. Counsell is appointed to act temporarily as Head Assistant, Judicial Department, Bengal Secretariat, during the absence, on duty, of Baboo Rajendra Nath Mittra.

REGISTRATION.—*The* 17*th July* 1877.—Baboo Kristo Hurry Bose, Special Sub-Registrar, Chittagong, is allowed leave of absence from the date of expiry of the leave granted to him under orders of the 28th May last to the date on which he rejoins his appointment.

Baboo Shama Charun Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is also appointed to be Sub-Registrar of the Sudder Station of Rajshahye, with effect from the 29th ultimo, *vice* Mr. R. C. Perry, transferred.

EDUCATION.—*The* 24*th July* 1877.—Baboo Kedar Nath Ghose, Second Master, Howrah Government School, is appointed to act as Head Master of that institution during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Radha Gobind Das, or until further orders.

The 17*th July* 1877.—Baboo Kedaressur Roy, Subordinate Judge, Jessore, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-nine days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Jeebun Kristo Chatterjee, Moonsif of Nemal Midnapore, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge Jessore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Kedaressur Roy, or until further orders.

Baboo Juggodiswur Goopt, B.L., is appointed to officiate as Moonsif of Nemal, during the absence, on duty, of Baboo Jeebun Kristo Chatterjee, or until further orders.

The 20*th July* 1877.—Mr. H. Farrer, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Jajpore division of the Cuttack district, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the First Class.

Mr. Farrer is also vested with powers to try summarily the offences mentioned in Section 222 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Baboo Harkumar Dass is appointed to act as Moonsif of Puttea, in the Chittagong district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Jugut Bundhu Dutt, or until further orders.

Baboo Kalidhan Chatterjee, B.L., is appointed to act as Moonsif of Bishenpore, in the district of West Burdwan, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Upendra Chunder Mullick, or until further orders.

Baboo Surut Chundra Mookerjee, B.L., Officiating Moonsif of Hajeepore, is appointed to act as Moonsif of Chumparun.

Baboo Gopeenath Mattay Moonsif of Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as Moonsif of Hajeepore, in the Tirhoot district during the absence, on deputation, of Hafiz Abdool Kareem, or until further orders.

Baboo Denesh Chunder Roy is appointed to officiate as Moonsif of Thakoorgong, in the Dinagepore district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Prosanno Coomar Ghose, or until further orders.

The 24*th July* 1877.—The following promotions of Moonsifs are made:—

To the First Grade of Moonsifs:

Baboo Troylokanath Mitter, B.L., from the 1st June 1877, *vice* Baboo Matadeen.

,, Sham Lall Haldar, B.L., from the 1st July 1877 *vice* Baboo Kristo Chunder Chatterjee.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

The following Talooks in the District of Burdwan will be put up to sale at the Judges Court, Burdwan, on Monday, the 6th August 1877, corresponding to the 23rd Srabun 1284 B. S.

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NOTICE

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All that two storied messuage or dwelling house together with the piece or parcel of land thereunto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation, One Biggah and 12 Cottahs more or less situate lying and being at and Numbered 4 Chowringhee Lane in the said Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded in the manner following that is to say on the North and South by the houses and property No. 5 and 5 belonging to the estate of the late Babu Radhamadhub Banerjee. On the East by the public lane called Chowringhee Lane and on the West by a Tank commonly called or known the Jangree Tallaw.

The abstract of title and the conditions of sale may be seen at the Office of the Registrar High Court Original Side and at the Office of Gonesh Chunder Chunder on any day before the sale, and will be produced at the sale.

G. C. Chunder, Defendant's Attorney. } (Sd.) R. BELCHAMBERS.

High Court Original Side, The 10th July 1877. } *Registrar.*

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In continuation of this office notice dated the 28th May last, advertising for applications for the posts of a District Engineer and 3 Sub-overseers, it is hereby notified, that the appointments will be probably made about the middle of August. Candidates for the post of *Sub-overseers* are requested to write the undersigned, so that he will get their letters on or before the 10th of August informing him if their services are still available.

E. J. BARTON,

Barisal the 13th July 1877. *Chairman.*

NOTICE.

A masonary dwelling house in the Sudder Station of Rungpore, known as the "Banak Kuthe" and eighty Bighas of Rent free land attached thereto, the whole belonging to the Estate of the late Mr. Rehling, will be put up to sale by the Nazir of the District Judge at the Judge's Court house, Rungpore, on the 13th August 1877 at 1 P. M. upset price Rs. 10,000.—

H. BEVERIDGE,

13*th July* 1877. *Officiating District Judge Rungpore.*

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Further particulars may be obtained from the Office of the Road-Cess Engineers. Five per cent. will be deducted from all payments as a guarantee for the completion, and refunded on the final certificate.

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District Road Fund Office, } C. F. MAGRATH,
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